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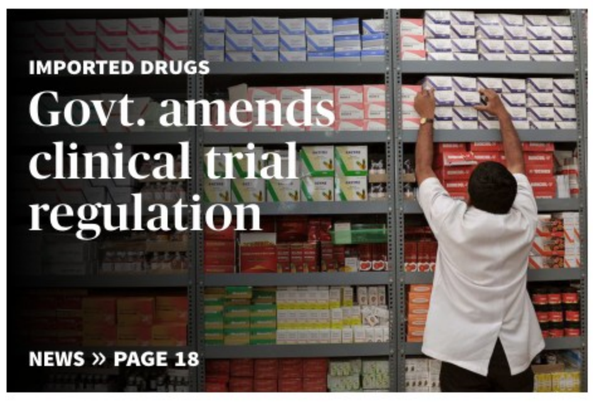

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75 junctions being revamped

BENGALURU
The BBMP has taken up a project to revamp 75 traffic junctions to improve pedestrian safety and ensure the smooth flow of traffic. The estimated cost of the project is ₹100 crore. » Page 4

Preetham Gowda told to exit from padayatra

MANDYA
Chinks in the coordination between BJP and JD(S) came to the fore again on Thursday, as the latter successfully kept former Hassan legislator and BJP general secretary Preetham Gowda away from the Mysuru Chalo padayatra.

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Yunus-led Bangladesh interim govt. sworn in

President Mohammed Shahabuddin administers the oath to 84-year-old Nobel laureate as Chief Adviser of the govt., three days after Hasina resigned as PM; 13 out of the 16 advisers also take oath

Rabiul Alam
DHAKA

A 17-member interim government in Bangladesh, under the leadership of Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus, was sworn in on Thursday, three days after Sheikh Hasina stepped down as Prime Minister and left the country amid mass protests.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin administered the oath to the 84-year-old as the Chief Adviser of the interim government, and the Cabinet members at 9.20 p.m. local time at a ceremony held in Bangabhaban, the official residence of the President.

Military officers, Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) secretary-general Mirza Fakhrul Islam, Jamaat-e-Islami amir Shafiqur Rahman, Jatiya Party chairman Ghulam Muhammed Quader as well as foreign diplomats from the U.K., Japan, China, the Philippines, Iran, Argentina, Qatar, the UAE and the Netherlands were present at the ceremony.

No one from the Awami League, Ms. Hasina's party, was seen at Bangabhaban.

After Mr. Yunus, 13 out of the 16 advisers of the interim government were sworn in.

As Gonobhaban, the Prime Minister's Office and official residence, remains in a shambles after protesters stormed it following the resignation of Ms. Hasina, the state guesthouse Jamuna will be the office and residence of the Chief Adviser.

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Fresh start: Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus arrives at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka on Thursday. AFP

Modi urges Yunus to ensure safety of minorities

NEW DELHI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday conveyed best wishes to Muhammad Yunus who took charge as the head of the interim government in Bangladesh and urged him to ensure "safety and protection" of minority communities.

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Former Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee dies

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Former West Bengal Chief Minister and veteran Communist leader Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee (80) passed away in Kolkata on Thursday. Communist Party of India (Marxist) State secretary Mohammad Salim said the former Chief Minister fell ill in the morning and passed away at 8.20 a.m.

Mr. Bhattacharjee became Chief Minister of the State in 2000 and led the CPI(M)-led Left Front to power for two terms in 2001 and 2006. He is survived by his wife Meera and daughter Suchetana.

On Thursday, thousands came out on the streets of Kolkata and assembled outside his Palm Avenue residence and followed the body to a city mortuary. The body will be taken to the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and the CPI(M) State headquarters on Friday. It will be then donated to the Nil Ratan Sircar Medical College and Hospital.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her condolences on the sudden demise of the former Chief Minister and visited his residence.

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Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee

RBI holds repo rate at 6.5% for ninth time in a row

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

In its first meeting after the Union Budget, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.50% for the ninth consecutive time.

Of the six members of the MPC, four voted in favour of the decision, which is aimed at taming inflation.

RBI governor Shaktikanta Das said that the MPC had judged it important for monetary policy to stay the course while maintaining a close vigil on the inflation trajectory and its risks. "Inflation is moderating but the pace of disinflation is uneven and slow. Still, there is distance to cover to align inflation with the target," he emphasised.

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Silver finish

Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem's Olympics record throw of 92.97m pushed Neeraj Chopra to the second spot in the javelin event in Paris. The Indian threw his season's best of 89.45m. REUTERS (REPORT ON: PAGE 22)

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Vinesh Phogat announces retirement

The Hindu Bureau

Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat announced her retirement from the sport on Thursday, a day after she was disqualified from the 50-kg category final at the Paris Olympics.

In an emotional post on X, she wrote, "Mom, wrestling has defeated me, I lost. Forgive me, your dream, my courage is all broken, I don't have any more strength now." "Goodbye wrestling 2001-2024," she concluded.

Meanwhile, the Haryana government announced that it would treat Phogat at par with an Olympic silver medallist and give her the same prize money and facilities. "She entered the finals, but could not play it... She is still a champion for us," Chief Minister Nayab Saini posted on X.

UP BUT OUT
» PAGE 14

Central grants linked to local body polls: SEC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

State Election Commissioner (SEC) G.S. Sangreshi said on Friday that Karnataka may lose out on the one-time infrastructure development grant of ₹2,100 crore as recommended by the 15th Finance Commission if steps are not taken to facilitate the conduct of elections to local bodies, whose term has expired, soon.

FULL REPORT
» PAGE 10

OTS scheme for property tax defaulters extended till Sept. 30

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has extended the one-time settlement (OTS) scheme for property tax defaulters in Bengaluru till September 30.

Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar had announced that the scheme would be extended till August 31. However, the order issued on Thursday extended the deadline till the end of September.

The BBMP introduced the one-time settlement scheme in February. FILE PHOTO

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) introduced the OTS scheme in February with an initial deadline of July 31. Under the scheme, property tax defaulters who would pay arrears were exempt from half of the penalty and interest on the arrears.

Of the 3.95 lakh property tax defaulters when the scheme was introduced, 1.07 lakh property owners utilised the scheme and paid ₹217.5 crore in all by July 31. However, several property owners who had queued up at BBMP offices on July 30 and 31 were not able to pay due to server issues, giving rise to demands for extension of the deadline.

India dazed by Lankan spin labyrinth

Rohit had no defence for the Men in Blue's repeated meltdowns — he offered no excuses, nor did he embrace the blame game; if anything, he sounded a little perplexed that his middle-order was so limpid and tame against the turning ball

AFP

R. Kaushik
COLOMBO

It's just as well that Gautam Gambhir has developed a poker face. It was even better that he was partly hidden behind the tinted walls of India's dressing room. The turmoil that must have been raging in his mind was therefore expertly insulated, but there is no denying the fact that India's head coach must have been seething at the turn of events unravelling before his eyes.

During his peak, Gambhir was an outstanding player of spin. It wasn't that he shied away from pace bowling, of the medium to the extreme varieties. Indeed, some of his more memorable Test knocks have come away from home, from Napier in New Zealand to Cape Town in South Africa, where he made light of a blow to his elbow from Morne Morkel to fashion a match-saving 92 in the final Test in 2011.

Short in stature physically but blessed with a huge heart, Gambhir met fire with fire or with the icy cool that only comes to the temperamentally gifted, even if he did allow his short fuse to occasionally get the better of him.

But it was against the turning ball that Gambhir was at his twinkle-toed best. An early and excellent judge of length, he used his feet superbly, either to get to the ball's picth or to capitalise on the crease's death. In attack or in obdurate defence, he was in supreme command; Gambhir against spin was watching a master practitioner at work. His opening partner, the irrepressible Virender Sehwag, would treat spin as if it didn't belong on the cricket field, never mind that he himself was a wonderful, classical off-spinner. Gambhir would kill 'em softly, one single at a time, maybe the odd four and then, out of nowhere, a shimmy down the track and a six towards wide long-on or thereabouts.

It must have been galling for him to watch his celebrated wards implode against Sri Lankan spin not once, not twice, but for three games on the trot at the R. Premadasa Stadium. 'Implode' is probably a mild and generous term. India crashed and burned, their reputations in tatters, their mindsets in a bind, their technique (or the lack of it) thoroughly exposed. It made for unedifying watching if you were a cricket fan - any cricket fan other than one supporting Sri Lanka.

In his mind, Gambhir must have been exhorting his charges to get down the track. To trust their footwork. To not be consumed by self-doubt and by the demons in the pitches, which weren't miniscule. To express themselves, to follow their game plans, to be bold and courageous and aggressive, if not impetuous and adventurous.

But only in his mind. The time for talk must have ended the moment the match began, it would only dawn once the dust had settled. Oh, what Gambhir would have given to weigh in with words of wisdom and sagacity, words that he had translated into practice for so long at every level!

To state that India were bamboozled by Sri Lanka's large complement of spinners of every ilk will be one of the grander understatements of the year. Three games in a row, they were set middling targets which were made to appear more competitive because of the enhanced assistance for spin under artificial lights. Three innings on the bounce, the Indian batters failed to follow in their admirable skipper's footsteps, who set the tone in the PowerPlay and then watched his colleagues throw it all away, and were caught in a mental web of their own making, exacerbated by the quality and the relentlessness of Sri Lanka's spinners.

Rohit Sharma was a cut above all-comers during the three-match One-Day International series, reprising the avatar he has embraced in the last year and a half. His reasoning was solid - the best time to score, and score quickly, was in the first ten overs. Not only would the two new white balls be at their hardest, that was also the time when only two boundary-riders were permitted. Rohit, like everyone else and their cousin, wasn't unaware that once the innings progressed and the balls lost their hardness, scoring would become difficult, if not impossible. He thus set about trying to alleviate score board pressure and a mounting required rate by maximising scoring opportunities in the first 10 overs.

In each succeeding outing, he did so with great aplomb. In the first game with India chasing 231, he reached his fifty off 33 deliveries, finishing with 58 off 47. Two nights later, he was at it again - half-century in 29 balls when confronted with a target of 241, final tally 64 off 44. The first time, he and Shubman Gill added 75 for the first wicket in 76 deliveries. In game two, the opening stand was even more substantial, 97 in 81. India somehow managed to tie last Friday's thriller but finished 32 short on Sunday.

Down 0-1, India had to win on Wednesday to avoid a first series loss to Sri Lanka in 27 years. They fought back well with the ball, restricting the hosts to 248 for seven when they had rattled along to 171 for one, midway through the 36th over. The largest chase of the series would also be the stiffest; from a batting beauty for about 30% of the game, the surface devolved into a dramatic semi-minefield, making Sri Lanka's spinners appear far, far better than they were - and they weren't bad to start with. Once again, the onus was on Rohit, and once again he delivered; his 35 was the fewest of his three hits, but he took only 20 deliveries in doing so. Maybe he should have kicked on; maybe he should have reined himself in, knowing full well that his batting mates were all at sea against the turning ball. Maybe he should have invoked the spirit of the Rohit of the past, the one who made daddy hundreds for fun. Maybe, but given the plethora of batting riches at his disposal, Rohit made a conscious choice to be the unfettered aggressor up front, and look at the returns that approach has produced.

It's what followed Rohit's dismissal in each of the three games that will worry, and possibly anger, Gambhir. True, India had the worse end of the bargain when it came to the conditions, but not even that would explain 53 for one dovetailing to 82 for six in the space of 35 deliveries. Dunith Wellalage was tidy and accurate and probing, but he was no Bishan Bedi or Derek Underwood. He mixed up big-turning balls with the one that skidded through on pitching, the arm ball. That was enough; Virat Kohli and Shreyas Iyer played for non-existent turn and were trapped leg before, the third time in the series the former captain was dismissed in the same fashion. As far as patterns go, this was picture perfect.

Rohit had no defence for India's repeated meltdowns; he offered no excuses, nor did he embrace the blame game. If anything, he sounded a little perplexed that his middle-order was so limpid and tame against the turning ball. "Playing spin, playing against slow bowlers on slow pitches, that shouldn't be the excuse for us," he asserted. "We all play on these kinds of pitches. It is about having game plans and being clear with your plans."

India tried to bat against their natural grain - reverse-sweeping isn't necessarily an Indian speciality though more and more of the younger generation is slowly getting adept at it. Those from an older school - the Rohits, Kohlis, Iyers and KL Rahuls - are not necessarily comfortable playing the cute, dinky shots that have become an integral part of the limited-overs, even Test, landscape, though to be fair to many of them, they tried the paddles and the reverses, though not with great conviction or success. Rohit said he couldn't fault the effort of his team, and it sounded as if the skipper was making a spirited defence of his boys because from the outside, the effort wasn't too easily visible.

Silver lining

If there is one thing in India's favour, it's that they won't encounter such conditions too often in the near future. When India laid out turners against Australia in early 2023, they were themselves caught out in Indore, in the third Test; in Hyderabad against England this January, they presented debutant left-arm spinner Tom Hartley with seven for 62 in the second innings, when a target of 231 was 28 runs beyond them. After that, India produced true wickets for the rest of the series and came trooped out 4-1 winners, reiterating that while they might believe turners offer their bowlers a distinct advantage, it is equally true that their own batters no longer are as felicitous against the jumping, turning, skidding, misbehaving ball like they once were when Mohammad Azharuddin and his successors wielded the willow with dextrous hands and sure feet.

It's true that, in R. Ashwin, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel, India boast an excellent spin quartet but they also have a very good pace attack, marshalled by easily the premier fast bowler in the world today. Jasprit Bumrah's presence, allied with India's documented recent travails against spin, should witness more stable tracks at home during the five Tests against Bangladesh and New Zealand from September. And Australia are unlikely to welcome India with turners. The spin torture might take a break for now, but it won't go away. Not unless there is a drastic improvement in attitude, approach and technique.

THE GIST

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DNA profiling and its value in establishing guilt or innocence

Though the accuracy of DNA evidence is increasing, we have not reached a juncture where it may be said to be infallible. Thus, it cannot be said that the absence of DNA evidence would lead to an adverse inference against a party, especially in the presence of other evidence in favour of such party

Ramya Kannan

Thanks, perhaps, to the amount of crime drama we now consume as entertainment, the layperson today appears to believe that DNA evidence in a case is clinching – it can make or break a case. But unclouded by what we see on our screens, what is the reality regarding the probative value of DNA in establishing guilt or innocence?

In mid-June, the Madras High Court set aside the conviction of a man who had been accused of rape in a POCSO case. The bench of Justices M. S. Ramesh and Sunder Mohan J. found merit in an appeal by the man, who argued that though it was subsequently proved that the victim falsely accused him of raping her, the DNA test establishing his paternity had dealt the blow, leading to his conviction. The judges held that the prosecution had not proved the case against the appellant beyond reasonable doubt, and therefore, set the conviction aside.

But that was not all. The judgement also examined, in detail, the wisdom of relying on DNA evidence alone to establish guilt. The facts in the case were thus: The victim had originally stated that the appellant had committed penetrative sexual assault on her, however, in her deposition, she said she had blamed the appellant, as she did not want her love affair with another man to come into the open for fear of criticism by relatives. The prosecution witness 1 too turned hostile, and in these circumstances, it would not have been possible to render a finding of guilt against the appellant, his counsel argued in court. Thus, the conviction was based on the DNA report, which compared blood samples collected from him and the victim's child. The report stated that the cumulative probability of the paternity of the appellant being the father of the child (of the victim) was 99.999999998%.

Genetic analyzer and 16 Capillary DNA sequencer and profiling equipment at the Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagonstics lab in Hyderabad. FILE PHOTO

How DNA works?

DNA is deoxyribonucleic acid, and it is genetic material present in the nuclei of cells in living organisms. Justices Mohan and Ramesh relied on an article published by the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Kolkata, explaining this in detail. An average human body is composed of about 100 trillion cells. DNA is present in the nucleus of a cell as a double helix, supercoiled to form chromosomes along with intercalated proteins. Twenty-three pairs of chromosomes are present in each nucleated cell, and an individual inherits 23 chromosomes from the mother and 23 from the father transmitted through the ova and sperm, respectively. All information about internal organisation, physical characteristics, and physiological functions of the body is encoded in DNA molecules in a language (sequence) of alphabets of four nucleotides or bases : Adenine (A), Guanine (G), Thymine (T), and Cytosine (C), along with the sugar phosphate backbone.

Since the same DNA sequence is present in every cell of the body (apart from mature red blood cells) therefore, DNA can be sourced from any biological material. This includes saliva, semen, vaginal fluids, blood, body tissues, teeth, hair, and bones. The quantity of DNA contained in biological material varies. Blood and saliva are richer sources of DNA as compared to teeth and hair roots, which are DNA deficient. DNA may be left behind on objects during physical contact, which is commonly referred to as touch DNA or trace DNA. Touch DNA contains very low amounts of DNA and is not an ideal source for DNA profiling, explains a paper in the *Forensic Science India Report* (2013-2017), which looks at the science underlying forensic DNA profiling and its value in criminal proceedings, notably admitting that there are inherent limitations to the process.

There is apparently much to say about the method for the collection, packaging, storage, and transportation of a DNA sample. Though it differs based on the source of the biological material and the conditions in which it is found, the idea is to ensure that the quality and quantity of DNA are preserved. There are well defined techniques for both the collection and transportation of various kinds of samples to prevent contamination and ensure the quality of the sample extracted.

How reliable is DNA?

But the moot question is: how reliable is DNA profiling in criminology? The basic fact we need to know is that the DNA in all human beings is 99.9% identical. In forensic DNA profiling, a few locations in the remaining 0.1% of DNA are chosen to create a person's DNA profile. These specific locations at which the DNA is examined are called loci. These loci have repetitive sequences of DNA called Short Tandem Repeats, or STRs. While every individual has the same sequence, or STR, on a locus, the number of times that it repeats itself may vary across individuals. This variation in the number of repetitions is referred to as alleles. At a given locus, an individual has two alleles, one inherited from the father and the other from the mother. The current genetic markers of choice for forensic purposes are STRs. STRs present on the Y chromosome are used in sexual assault cases or to determine paternal lineage.

> In mid-June, the Madras High Court set aside the conviction of a man who had been accused of rape. The judgement examined the wisdom of relying on DNA evidence alone to establish guilt

DNA profiling is complicated, and each sequential step involved in generating a profile can vary depending on the facilities available in the laboratory. The analysis principles, however, remain: isolation, purification and quantitation of DNA, amplification of selected genetic markers, visualising the fragments and genotyping, statistical analysis and interpretation, the Kolkata lab explainer adds.

Manikanda Raj, head of forensic medicine and toxicology at Chengalpattu Medical College and Hospital, says DNA analysis as a process is based on probability and, in that sense, cannot be considered conclusive evidence. There are definite pitfalls, he says, particularly with sample contamination, where there is a delay in lifting the sample or testing it, when the sample becomes unviable, or the samples themselves are switched. "Then the tests turn out inconclusive. One way to ensure at least the right samples are tested is to videograph the entire process - something we have been following in Tamil Nadu – thanks to a directive by Justice P.N. Prakash." He's very clear that convictions cannot be made only on the strength of a DNA analysis, without other corroborating evidence.

How conclusive is DNA profiling?

The Madras High Court, in its verdict in the case. also explained possible outcomes, based on scientific resources. There are three possible outcomes of a profile comparison: (1) Match : If the DNA profiles obtained from the two samples are indistinguishable, they are said to have matched. (2) Exclusion : If the comparison of profiles shows differences, it can only be explained by the two samples originating from different sources. (3) Inconclusive : The data does not support a conclusion.

It also quotes a Law Commission of India report, 'A Review of the Indian Evidence Act, 2003', which observed that: "If the samples match, that does not mean the identity is conclusively proved. Rather, an expert will be able to derive from a database of DNA samples an approximate number reflecting how often a similar DNA "profile" or "fingerprint" is found. It may be, for example, that the relevant profile is found in 1 person in every 1,00,000 : This is described as the "random occurrence ratio". Thus, DNA may be more useful for purposes of investigation but not for raising any presumption of identity in a court of law."

In Pattu Rajan v. State of T.N. 2019, judges considered the value to be attached to a DNA report: "Like all other opinion evidence, the probative value accorded to DNA evidence also varies from case to case, depending on facts and circumstances and the weight accorded to other evidence on record, whether contrary or corroborative. This is all the more important to remember, given that even though the accuracy of DNA evidence may be increasing with the advancement of science and technology with every passing day, thereby making it more and more reliable, we have not yet reached a juncture where it may be said to be infallible. Thus, it cannot be said that the absence of DNA evidence would lead to an adverse inference against a party, especially in the presence of other cogent and reliable evidence on record in favour of such party."

(ramya.kannan@thehindu.co.in)

Is there a threat of resistant fungal infections?

Monisha Madhumitha

The rise of drug-resistant fungal infections, notably Trichophyton indotineae, is emerging as a significant health concern in India. This resilient dermatophyte, linked to the misuse of topical steroids, poses challenges for both patients and healthcare providers.

Imagine battling a skin infection that refuses to heal despite multiple treatments. This is the reality for many people facing infections caused by Trichophyton indotineae, commonly known as ringworm or jock itch. First identified in India, this fungus has now spread to several countries.

Clinical Challenges

The inappropriate use of steroid creams has exacerbated the problem, making this strain particularly hard to treat.

Mr. Shyam Verma, one of the world's leading experts in dermatophytosis and based at Nirvan Skin Clinic, Vadodara, Gujarat, emphasises the need for careful classification, "It's premature to label it Trichophyton indotineae based on a few cases," he says.

Patients often present with persistent, treatment-resistant rashes that can easily be mistaken for eczema or other skin conditions, delaying treatment. These rashes can be red, scaly, and itchy, making them similar to more common dermatological issues. The misdiagnosis of these infections often leads to the use of ineffective treatments, which not only prolong patient suffering but allow the infection to worsen.

The diagnostic process involves not just clinical examination but also laboratory tests, such as fungal cultures and molecular diagnostics, to confirm the presence of resistant fungal strains. Misdiagnosis and delayed treatment can lead to the spread of the infection, not only worsening the individual's condition but also increasing the risk of transmission within the community.

The inappropriate use of steroid creams has exacerbated the problem, making this strain particularly hard to treat. GETTY IMAGES

Ravi (name changed), a patient managing Trichophyton indotineae, shares, "I experienced persistent rashes for months and was misdiagnosed initially as eczema. Once correctly identified, the appropriate treatment made a significant difference. However, the infection spread among my family members, and the relentless itching was unbearable." His experience underscores the importance of accurate diagnosis and specialised care in managing these infection. By improving diagnostic accuracy and educating both healthcare providers and patients, we can better manage and treat these challenging infections.

Treatment options

Trichophyton indotineae is a newly-identified dermatophyte species that has been found in near-epidemic form on the Indian subcontinent. This fungus, identical to genotype VIII within the T. mentagrophytes/T. interdigitale species complex, was described in 2019 by sequencing the Internal Transcribed Spacer (ITS) region of ribosomal DNA. More than 10 ITS genotypes of T. interdigitale and T. mentagrophytes can now be identified. T. indotineae causes inflammatory and itchy, often widespread dermatophytosis affecting the groins, gluteal region, trunk, and face, affecting patients of all ages and genders.

Resistance to terbinafine due to genetic mutations in the squalene epoxidase gene is a concern. Additionally, growing resistance to another major antifungal, itraconazole, is of concern. For infections resistant to standard antifungal medications, treatments such as itraconazole may be necessary. However, these alternatives often come with significant side effects, including gastrointestinal issues, liver toxicity, and interactions with other medications, and will require close monitoring.

Dr. Verma explains, "One of the major reasons why this is happening is not only because of the topical steroid combinations being used, but also because the itraconazole drug formulations available are not of good quality. This results in suboptimal dosing, even if patients take it as prescribed. Unregulated sales of steroid-containing combination creams that may temporarily reduce the itch but contribute to resistance further complicate treatment efforts." In addition to antifungal medications, integrating comprehensive skin care regimens can enhance treatment efficacy. This includes maintaining skin hydration, using barrier creams to protect affected areas, and avoiding irritants that can exacerbate the condition. Proper skin care supports the healing process and reduces the likelihood of recurrent infections.

Prevention strategies

The bottom line is that maintaining good hygiene practices is key to preventing the spread. Keeping the skin dry and clean is essential since moisture creates an ideal environment for fungal growth. Washing and drying areas prone to sweating, such as the feet, groin, and armpits, can reduce this risk. Avoiding the sharing of personal items like towels, clothing, and grooming tools is another measure. Wearing breathable clothing helps keep the skin dry and reduces sweating.

Jyothi Jayaraman, a senior member of the special interest group IADVL Dermatophytosis and assistant professor in the Department of Dermatology, Father Muller Medical College, Mangalore, says, "Simple measures such as regular washing of personal items and maintaining hygiene is essential." Following prescribed treatment regimens without interruption is crucial. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle by boosting the immune system through a balanced diet, exercise, and sleep is also beneficial.

(Dr. Monisha Madhumita is a consultant dermatologist at Saveetha Medical College, Chennai and member of the International Alliance for Global Health Dermatology, London, UK. mail.monisha.m@gmail.com)

A patient is shifted to the ICU of Nipah isolation ward in Kozhikode Medical College last month REUTERS

WHO lists over 30 pathogens that could start the next pandemic

Zubeda Hamid

Reminders that Covid-19 has not gone away pop up from time to time, even if the world seems to have moved on. More than 40 athletes at the 2024 Olympics in Paris have tested positive, signalling a new global rise in cases, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on August 6. The subgenus Sarbecovirus, of which SARS-CoV-2 is a member, now finds a place on the list of "priority pathogens" in the WHO's recently-released 'Pathogens Prioritisation' report.

The report, which is a framework for epidemic and pandemic research preparedness, is the result of work that began in late 2022, involving over 200 scientists from 54 countries who evaluated the evidence related to 28 viral families and one core group of bacteria, encompassing 1,652 pathogens. The final list comprises over 30 'priority pathogens'.

On the list of priority pathogens, though not a new addition, is Nipah. A 14-year-old boy died at the Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode, Kerala, after contracting it. Both the Ebola and Zika viruses feature on the list, as they did in 2018, with both classified as "high" for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern or PHEIC risk. Maharashtra is currently grappling with a Zika virus outbreak – reports indicate there have been over 70 cases of Zika in Pune in the past two months, and these include 26 pregnant women.

Scientists evaluated the evidence related to 28 viral families and one core group of bacteria, encompassing 1,652 pathogens. The final list comprises over 30 'priority pathogens'

The list of priority pathogens, says Chennai-based infectious diseases specialist Subramanian Swaminathan, is a pointer towards the pathogens that governments could allocate resources towards, for surveillance and medical countermeasures. This does not mean all of them are currently problems, he says, but it means that countries have to monitor these pathogens as they have the potential to turn into problems.

"Surveillance of these pathogens has to involve multiple aspects - is the pathogen spreading beyond a geographical area, is it becoming more virulent, is its transmissibility increasing, is the clinical manifestation of the disease it causes changing, is it becoming more resistant to known treatment, and does it have vaccine escape properties?" he says.

What else is new on the list? The dengue virus and the influenza A viruses, including the H5 subtype, which caused an avian influenza outbreak in India and which affected cattle in the United States are now on the list, along with mpox, which currently erupted in parts of Africa.

Among the bacteria, added to the list are those that cause plague, cholera, pneumonia, dysentery and non-typhoidal salmonella, a key cause of diarrhoeal diseases.

In the Southeast Asia region, the report notes that bacterial pathogens are priorities, including Vibrio cholera O139 (cholera) and Shigella dysenteriae serotype 1 (dysentery). Priority pathogens Henipavirus nipahense (Nipah) and Bandavirus dabieense (causes severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome) are endemic, as are the mosquito-borne Orthoflavivirus denguei (dengue) and Zikaense (Zika virus disease), and Alphavirus chikungunya.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The death toll from the monsoon rains in Pakistan

154 The death toll from nearly six weeks of monsoon rains and floods across Pakistan has risen to 154, officials said on Thursday. More than 1,500 homes have been damaged since July 1, when the monsoon rains began. AFP

Reserve Bank of India's growth projection for this fiscal

7.2 in per cent. The RBI retained the inflation projection at 4.5% for the current fiscal amid expectations of a normal monsoon. On inflation, Shaktikanta Das said, a relief in food inflation is expected from the pick-up in the south-west monsoon. PTI

India's forex reserves touch a record high, says RBI Governor

675 in $ billion. The previous all-time high for the kitty was $670.857 billion on July 19. Gross foreign direct investment rose by more than 20% in April-May, while net FDI flows doubled during this period compared to the year-ago period. PTI

The kilometres by which Ukraine has advanced into Russia

10 Ukrainian troops' advancement into Russia is likely the most serious border incursion of the conflict, the Institute for the Study of War said. Pro-Kyiv forces stormed into Russia's southwestern Kursk region on Tuesday morning. AFP

The chance of La Niña weather pattern to emerge in Sept.-Nov.

66 in per cent. La Niña, characterised by cooler-than-average ocean temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific, is associated with floods and droughts. REUTERS

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On monetary policy and financial markets

The recent rapid turnarounds in global markets have come on the back of attempts by central banks to combat the problems of inflation and repressed economic activity using the tool of interest rates. It indicates the difficulty in implementing monetary policy in the presence of strong financial markets

ECONOMIC NOTES

Rahul Menon

Global financial markets may be exhibiting recovery following the dramatic falls in value, but the global economy is still in uncharted waters. Employment generation in the U.S. has been weaker than expected, threatening the fragile post-pandemic recovery. The Bank of Japan's decision to raise interest rates after years of keeping them low has also rattled financial markets, setting off a reversal of equity flows and a collapse in Asian markets. These rapid turnarounds have come on the back of attempts by central banks to combat the problems of inflation and repressed economic activity using the tool of interest rates. What the current situation indicates is the difficulty in implementing monetary policy in the presence of global financial markets, where expectations display heightened volatility and large-scale drops in asset values can occur much faster than the ability of policy-makers to respond.

GETTY IMAGES

Was there a threat of recession?

The current consensus regarding monetary policy is to assume a trade-off between unemployment and inflation. Central banks raise interest rates as inflation rises, reducing investment and hence slowing aggregate demand. This leads to a reduction in the demand for labour, reducing the ability of wage-earners to push for higher wages, and ease inflationary pressures.

There is, of course, a lot to debate regarding the proper conduct of monetary policy. Several have criticised the normal conduct of monetary policy, stressing that solving inflation by increasing unemployment represents an unfair burden being placed on workers everywhere, who are already grappling with a cost-of-living crisis. Instead, they argue, inflation could be better tamed by forcing companies to reduce their profit margins and by breaking monopolies.

Let us accept the current consensus regarding the conduct of monetary policy. The release of a jobs report that showed a less-than-expected increase in employment led to fears of a recession, and caused a rapid sell-off of equity stocks. This, coupled with concerns regarding the less-than-expected performance of big tech giants, led to a rout in the stock markets.

What is of note is that the economy wasn't actually in a recession, the market just expected one to occur. The rise in unemployment rates triggered the "Sahm rule" which mandates the automatic disbursal of unemployment checks to households when the increase in unemployment rates breaches a certain threshold. This measure is not an indicator that the economy has entered recession, but is correlated with one. However, correlation does not always indicate certainty; the economy may be displaying the potential for recession, but the threat of a future recession was enough to spark fear amongst investors.

This indicates one of the problems of conducting monetary policy in the presence of a strong financial sector. The gradual reduction of inflation was being held as proof of the successful conduct of monetary policy. Less-than-expected performance in terms of employment creation in one quarter alone has caused financial markets to react and respond at a pace that is too fast for policy-makers to deal with. The market has acted on the expectation that a recession will occur without the economy ever being in one.

The carry trade

On the other side of the world, Asian markets were rattled by the increase in interest rates by the Japanese Central Bank following long periods of low rates. A long period of economic slowdown in Japan has led to central banks keeping interest rates at levels close to 0. Low Japanese interest rates have led to what is known as the "carry trade", where foreign investors take advantage of low rates to borrow from Japan and invest in foreign markets. The increase in interest rates caused a disruption in this form of trade, leading to investors selling stocks in other markets to deal with higher borrowing costs. This, it has been said, has added to selling pressures in other markets.

This represents an added complication for policy. Low interest rates in Japan to combat a decades-long slowdown indirectly subsidised the activities of foreign capital. Domestic policy imperatives of certain economies exercise undue effects on other economies through the action of global finance.

This is not the first time the actions of global finance caused difficulties for domestic policy in other countries. Interest rates in the U.S. were low following the great recession in 2008. This led to investors borrowing at cheap rates in the U.S. and investing in other markets like India. As interest rates in the U.S. rose following a resumption of growth, capital flew out from India, leading to pressure on its external account: this was called "taper tantrum".

Monetary policy in financial markets

Financial markets have shown signs of recovery following these intense bouts of selling pressure, with many claiming that threats of recession are overblown, even though vulnerabilities remain. But these incidents highlight the potentially destabilising nature of finance. The speed with which financial assets can be bought and sold and the ease at which national borders can be traversed, represents burdens upon the normal conduct of monetary policy. As Keynes once said, "When the capital development of a country becomes a by-product of a casino, the job is likely to be ill-done."

Rahul Menon is Associate Professor at O.P. Jindal Global University.

THE GIST

- The Bank of Japan's decision to raise interest rates after years of keeping them low has rattled financial markets, setting off a reversal of equity flows and a collapse in Asian markets.
- The current consensus regarding monetary policy is to assume a trade-off between unemployment and inflation. Central banks raise interest rates as inflation rises, reducing investment and hence slowing aggregate demand. This leads to a reduction in the demand for labour, reducing the ability of wage-earners to push for higher wages, and ease inflationary pressures.
- Financial markets have shown signs of recovery following these intense bouts of selling pressure, with many claiming that threats of recession are overblown, even though vulnerabilities remain.

Why Himalayan towns need a different kind of development

Do cities along the Indian Himalayan Range have adequate funds and resources to manage civic issues?

Tikender Singh Panwar

The story so far:

The Indian Himalayan Range (IHR), comprising 11 States and two Union Territories, had a decadal urban growth rate of more than 40% from 2011 to 2021. Towns have expanded, and more urban settlements are developing. However, Himalayan towns require a different definition of urbanisation.

What is happening in IHR towns?

Almost all Himalayan towns, including State capitals, struggle with managing civic issues. For example, cities like Srinagar, Guwahati, Shillong, and Shimla, as well as smaller towns, face significant challenges in managing sanitation, solid and liquid waste, and water. Planning institutions in these States often fail because they use models copied from the plains and have only limited capacities to implement these plans. City governments are short of human resources by almost 75%. For instance, in the Kashmir Valley, excluding the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, there are only 15 executive officers across over 40 urban local bodies.

Cities continue to expand into the peripheries, encroaching on the commons of villages. Srinagar, Guwahati are examples of such expansion, leading to the plundering of open spaces, forest land, and watersheds. In Srinagar, land use changes between 2000 and 2020 showed a 75.58% increase. Water bodies have eroded by almost 25%, from 19.36 square kilometres to 14.44 square kilometres. These areas have been taken over by built-up real estate, increasing from 34.53 square kilometres to 60.63 square kilometres, a rise from 13.35% to 23.44% of the total municipal area. Nearly 90% of the liquid waste enters water bodies without treatment.

Why is this happening?

The IHR faces increasing pressure from urbanisation and development, compounded by high-intensity tourism, unsustainable infrastructure, and resource use (land and water), further aggravated by climatic variations like changing precipitation patterns and rising temperatures. This has led to water scarcity, deforestation, land degradation, biodiversity loss, and increased pollution, including plastics. These pressures have the potential to disrupt lives and livelihoods, impacting the socio-ecological fabric of the Himalayas.

Over the past few decades, tourism in the IHR has continued to expand and diversify, with an anticipated average annual growth rate of 7.9% from 2013 to 2023. Current tourism in the IHR often replaces eco-friendly infrastructure with inappropriate, unsightly, and dangerous constructions, poorly designed roads, and inadequate solid waste management, which leads to loss of natural resources damaging biodiversity and ecosystem services. Ecotourism, emphasising environmentally friendly tourism, is crucial for long-term sustainability.

What needs to be done?

Planning institutions in IHR cities are still guided by land-use principles. Every town needs to be mapped, with layers identifying vulnerabilities from geological and hydrological perspectives. Climate-induced disasters annually erode infrastructures built without such mapping. Therefore, the planning process should involve locals and follow a bottom-up approach.

Consultant-driven urban planning processes should be shelved for Himalayan towns, with the urban design based on climate resilience.

Additionally, none of the cities in the IHR can generate capital for their infrastructure needs. The Finance Commission must include a separate chapter on urban financing for the IHR. The high costs of urban services and the lack of industrial corridors place these towns in a unique financial situation. Current intergovernmental transfers from the centre to urban local bodies constitute a mere 0.5% of GDP; this should be increased to at least 1%. Himalayan towns must engage in wider conversations about sustainability, with the focus on urban futures being through robust, eco-centric planning processes involving public participation.

Author is former Deputy Mayor, Shimla, and Member, Kerala Urban Commission.

THE GIST

- Cities like Srinagar, Guwahati, Shillong, and Shimla, as well as smaller towns, face significant challenges in managing sanitation, solid and liquid waste, and water.
- The IHR faces increasing pressure from urbanisation and development, compounded by high-intensity tourism, unsustainable infrastructure, and resource use (land and water), further aggravated by climatic variations like changing precipitation patterns and rising temperatures.
- Planning institutions in IHR cities are still guided by land-use principles. Every town needs to be mapped, with layers identifying vulnerabilities from geological and hydrological perspectives.

Man kills wife in Kolar, dies later in city hospital

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 27-year-old cloth merchant allegedly hacked his 18-year-old wife to death hours after their marriage, following a fight in Kolar on Wednesday.

The accused, Naveen Kumar, then tried to end his life. He succumbed to his injuries at a hospital in Bengaluru on Thursday.

According to the police, Naveen and Likhita had a love-cum-arranged marriage at Chambarasabahalli in Kolar Gold Fields.

The police said that Naveen took Likhita and his in-laws to his uncle's house where they were served refreshments.

Later, Naveen and Likhita went inside a room and closed the door. A few minutes later, the relatives heard them screaming at each other.

When they looked inside the room through a window, they allegedly saw Naveen attacking Likhita with a sickle.

They broke open the door and on entering, they found Likhita lying in a pool of blood and Naveen with injuries, said the police.

They called an ambulance, but since there was a delay, they took the couple to the R.L. Jalappa Hospital before shifting Naveen to Bengaluru for further treatment. On Wednesday, he succumbed to his injuries.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 for help)

Siddaramaiah opens 216th edition of Lalbagh flower show

The flower show will conclude on August 19. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

"B.R. Ambedkar believed that regardless of caste, religion, language, and region, all people should be given equal opportunities. He also believed that people can attain political freedom only when they achieve economic and social freedom. Dr. Ambedkar will forever be relevant. This year's flower show has provided a unique opportunity for people to understand the aspirations of the Constitution," said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, after inaugurating the 216th edition of the annual flower show at Lalbagh Botanical Garden on Thursday.

The Independence Day flower show, organised by the Horticulture Department, has been designed around the theme of 'Universal Scholar, Architect of the Constitution, Bharat Ratna, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar'.

The Chief Minister added: "All of Dr. Ambedkar's significant achievements have been showcased in various forms at the exhibition. People can understand his intentions through these exhibits. People can conduct themselves according to the Constitution only when they become aware of it."

Bhimrao Yashwant Ambedkar, grandson of Dr. Ambedkar, was the chief guest at the event. He expressed his gratitude for the tribute to his grandfather. "Babasaheb's entire life story has been depicted through various plants and flowers. One can understand that Babasaheb has worked for the whole country," he said.

The flower show will conclude on August 19. The ticket prices for the show have been fixed at ₹70 on weekdays and ₹80 on weekends for adults, while it will be ₹30 for children on all days.

Suraksha 75: BBMP redeveloping junctions at a cost of ₹100 crore

The city has reported a high number of pedestrian deaths: 286 in 2023, up from 161 in 2021 and 247 in 2022

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has taken up a project to revamp 75 traffic junctions to improve pedestrian safety and ensure the smooth flow of traffic. The estimated cost of the project – Suraksha 75 – is ₹100 crore.

Till date, tenders have been called for civil works at 45 junctions, even as three – Balekundri Circle, Town Hall junction, and Maurya Circle – have been transformed as part of a pilot project, sources in the BBMP said.

The project was initiated in collaboration with the World Resources Institute in 2023.

Bengaluru is one of the cities with a high number of pedestrian deaths – 286 in 2023, up from 161 in 2021 and 247 in 2022.

B.S. Prahlad, Chief Engineer, BBMP, said: "Revamping prominent junctions to include pedestrian safety elements will also streamline traffic flow and reduce congestion."

Srinivas Alavilli, Fellow, Integrated Transport and Road Safety, WRI India, said: "Based on ground studies and trials at major junctions in Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Delhi, we have identified several design elements in compliance with the relevant standards to improve road safety, like raised pedestrian crossings, rumble strips, pedestrian islands and speed humps, proper road markings and signages, apart from proper walkways."

For the first time, the civic body has brought design partners and urban architects on board at the initial stage of the project.

Chetan Sodaye, Programme Manager, Integrated Transport and Road Safety, WRI Indiaz, said: "Design is key to safety. In the absence of a detailed design, civil works cannot solve the problems. Once we have oriented the consultants with the design philosophy and focus of Suraksha 75, the consultants are coming up with better DPRs."

Mr. Prahlad said the civic body has been working with WRI India, knowledge partner for the project, to conduct multiple stakeholder workshops to review the draft DPRs of the proposed interventions at each junction and finalising the plan.

"This way, interventions at each junction are unique and pragmatic. We are also working to design the junction to reflect what the circle is named after. For instance, we have used modern materials to build the statue of Rajiv Gandhi and we will install a Gandabherunda statue at Police Circle," he said.

Tenders have been issued for civil works at 45 junctions and tenders for the rest of the junctions are being prepared.

"We are aiming to complete work at all 75 junctions by the end of 2024," Mr. Prahlad said.

Suraksha 75

Prominent features being built at junctions

- Speed humps
- Rumble strips
- Road markings
- Road signages
- High-rise pedestrian crossing
- Sidewalks with multi-utility zones
- Pedestrian refuge islands and median refuge
- Kerb extension
- Bus stops

Some of the prominent junctions being developed

Trinity Circle, Anil Kumble Circle, Hudson Circle, Town Hall Circle, SJP Road junction, Windsor Manor junction, NGEF signal, Nayandahalli junction, Yeshwantpur junction, Vatal Nagaraj Road junction, Deve Gowda petrol bunk junction, Makkala Koota Circle, Tin Factory, Marathahalli, K.R. Puram, Sumanahalli junction, Kengeri bus stand circle, Varthur Kodi junction, Kundalahalli Circle

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that, our client has lost the original Sale Deed dated 04-04-2005, registered as document No.233/2005-06, in respect of property bearing Apartment No.206, Situated at Bellandur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, while internal Transit at HDFC Bank Ltd., Jayanagar Branch. Our client had lodged an online police complaint on 08-08-2024, lost report No.1184715/2024. If anybody found the said document please contact this Nos. 9844155041 and 9739898062.

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No. 23, "Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-560027.
Mob : 98441 55041, 96205 79310

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that our client **Mr.Kashinath @ N.Vishwanath,** aged about 54 years, S/o Nareppa.L, Adhar No.5547 6916 2927, residing at Rampura, Virgonagar Post, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk-560049, Represents that the Sale deed dated 22.08.1982, registered as Document No.1387/1982-83, in the office of sub registrar Hosakote, executed by **Sri.S.A.Samad,** Conveyed the Property bearing Sy No.34, measuring 8 Acres to and in favour of **Mr.Kashinath,** in respect to the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** mentioned hereunder is lost/misplace and not traceable.

If anybody other than the said **Mr.Kashinath @ N.Vishwanath** has any claim, right, title and interest on the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** by virtue of being in possession or otherwise above said Original Documents, or any Rights they should file their claim with documentary proof within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of issuance of this Public Notice in our office, at the address mentioned below, failing which, it will be taken for granted that nobody has any manner of right, title, interest or claim over the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** other than the said **Mr.Kashinath @ N.Vishwanath.**

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immoveable Property bearing **Sy No.34,** Old Sy No.34/P95, situated at **Kada Agrahara Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring in all measuring **8 Acres,** with formation of sites thereon and bounded on the:

East by : Road & Lakshmaiah Property;
West by : Rock & Road;
North by : Remaining same Sy No.34;
South by : Property of Shekar;

Shruthi.S, Advocate
Unit No.101, 1st Floor, No.663, at 3rd Cross, Opp: to Karnataka Bank, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560036

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **PRATHAP .V.,** S/o. J. Vijayaraghavan, R/at: No.A004, **"KETHANA ACCOLADE"** Apartment, Chikkanayakanahalli Road, Near Doddakannehalli Bus Stop, Doddakannelli, Bengaluru - 560 035, has filed a complaint to the Police Commissioner, Bengaluru City through E-Lost Portal under Section 155 of Cr.P.C. on 25.07.2024 vide Lost Report No.1162377/2024 for having lost of **ORIGINAL SALE DEED** dated: 20.12.1997, of property Eastern Half Portion of Site No.51, Sy.No. 103, Corporation No.51/11, present Corporation No.11/1, PID No.66-28-11/1, situated at 3rd Main Road, Chikka Adugodi Extension Ward No.66, Bangalore, measuring East to West - 15 Feet and North to South - 40 feet, in all measuring 600 Sq.ft., along with RCC roofed house consisting of Ground Floor, First Floor and Second Floor and bounded on the:

East by : Site No.52.
West by : Western Portion of Site No.51/11.
North by : Road.
South by : Site No.40.

The same was presented on 20.12.1997, registered as Document No.2515/1997-98, Book-I, Volume 2086, Pages 89-92 dated: 17.06.1998, registered in the Office of the Senior Sub Registrar, Bengaluru City, Jayanagar has been lost/misplaced and the same is not traceable.

My client propose to sell the said property, any person/s having claim/objection may file the same with the undersigned within **7 days**, failing which my client shall proceed to complete the transaction.

A.G. PRAHALLAD
Advocate,
No.12, 12th Cross, Bannappa Park Road, Cubbonpet, Bengaluru - 560002.
Mobile: 9845654795

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client is in the process of negotiating and purchasing property more fully mentioned and described in the Schedule hereunder, from its Owner, **Mrs. V Jothi Bai.** Any person/s having objection/s or claims shall with documentary evidence lodge their objections or claims within **5 (Five) days** from the date of this notice with the undersigned in writing, failing which my client shall proceed with the above-mentioned transaction. Please note that the claims whatsoever, if any, arise in future, shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property**, residential vacant Site bearing No.927** having **BDA Khatha/PID No. 5228030001, BDA Arkavathi 3rd (third) Block (Sy.No.32/1, Sampangehalli Village) Layout,** Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bangalore-560 064, measuring **East to West 9 meters and North to South 12 meters,** totally measuring **108 square meters** and bounded on

East by : Site No. 928;
West by : Site No.926;
North by : Government Land;
South by : Road.

Naveen Kumar.M. Advocate
No.236, Shanthi, 6th Cross
5th Main, ITI Layout
Mallathahalli, Bengaluru - 560056
Mail : mnklegal02@gmail.com
Ph. No.8147578188
Place: Bangalore Date:09/08/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the property mentioned in the Schedule hereunder from the owners **Dr.Arun Kumar and Dr. Prema Arun Kumar.** The Owners represent that there is/are no other person/s having any right or claim over the Schedule Property and they have not mortgaged, created any lien or encumbered the Schedule Property or part thereof in any manner and they have not entered into any Agreement of Sale/ Development Agreement/ Memorandum of Understanding etc., with any other person /s. Any person/s having objection/s or claims, shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/ claims within **Seven (7) days** from the date of publication of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my client shall proceed with the above-mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the properties bearing **No. 3/1,** (PID No. 83-79-3/1) measuring 4060 Sq. Ft., and **No.11** (PID No. 83-101-11) measuring 7380 Sq. Ft., both together 11,440 Sq. Ft., both situated at **1st Main Road, Varsova Layout, CV Raman Nagar, Bangalore -560093** and bounded on **East by: Private Property & Tank, West by: 1st Main Road, North by: Properties of Zutshi & Vaikuntam and South by: 20' wide road and drain.**

RAGHUVEERA.R, Advocate,
No. 439, Ground Floor, 5th Main, 6th Avenue Teachers Colony, Jakkasandra, Koramangala 1st Block, BANGALORE-560034.
Mob: 9845657623, 9901977902
Bangalore Date : 08-08-2024

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

WALK IN INTERVIEW
Notification No.01/2024-25

A walk in interview for appointment of Sr. House Surgeon at Central Hospital, Hubballi is being conducted at Central Hospital, South Western Railway, Gadag Road, Hubballi - on 19.08.2024 at 11 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

The qualification, age, duration, etc. for Sr.House Surgeon is as shown below. Interested candidates may attend the interview with the following documents.

No. of Posts	: 04 Nos.
Qualification	: MBBS.
Age	: Upto 37 yrs.
Remuneration	: Rs.45,000/-per month.
Period	: Six months each term from the date of appointment (Total Two years - six months each term)
Documents: Application, Marks list, Registration Certificate, Experience certificate if any - Original and one set zerox	

For further details contact office of the undersigned on all working days up to 17.08.2024 between 10.00 am to 6.00 pm. The notice has been uploaded in the website: www.swrindianrailways.gov.in.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR, CENTRAL HOSPITAL HUBBALLI
PUB/332/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE NO. : HE-TRD-2024-25-OT-20 dated:02.08.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Item of work	Approximate value
OHE MODIFICATION FOR SHIFTING OF INSULATED OVERLAPS IN HUBBALLI DIVISION	Rs. 2,00,33,827/-

Last date of submission of bid for tender **Upto :15.00 Hours on 30.08.2024**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (Traction Distribution) Hubballi
PUB/328/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

Applications were invited for engagement of ATVM facilitator at Stations over Bengaluru division vide notification No.B/C. 565/ATVM Facilitator/06/2024 dated 10.07.2024. All concerned are hereby notified that applications in response to the above notification should be deposited **ONLY** in the sealed box exclusively kept in the office of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, South Western Railway, Divisional Railway Managers Office, Bengaluru - 560 023.

Last date of submission of bid for tender **Upto : 15:00 Hours on 20.08.2024**
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Bengaluru
PUB/329/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE No. 06-S&T/MYS/2024 dated 31.07.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the work	Approx. value
Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Electronic Interlocking Systems of Medha Servo Drives Pvt. Ltd. make installed at Shivani, Hosadurga Road, Ammasandra, Banasandra, Kardi, Tiptur, Honnavalli Road, Haveri, Byadgi stations for three years.	Rs.1,98,21,024.00

Last date of submission of bid for tender : **Upto 11:00 Hours on 21.08.2024**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Mysuru
PUB/327/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE NO: 35/2024 dated 01.08.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the president of India, invites E- tenders (IREPS) for the following works.

Sl	Description in brief	Qty
1	**L8246037** : Diesal engine driven fork lift truck 3T capacity	02 Nos.
2	**L8246170** : Up-gradation/Conversion of Fire Detection with Manual Suppression System provided in Power / Pantry cars as per RDSO specification No. RDSO/2013/CG-06 to Fire Detection System with Automatic Fire Suppression System as per RDSO specification No. RDSO/2013/CG-06 Rev. 2	34 Nos.

Last date for submission of bid for tenders: **Upto 10:30 Hrs on 26.08.2024**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Materials Manager/ Bengaluru
PUB/323/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Public Works Division, Dharashiv
E-Tender Notice No.: 07/2024-25

Online Tenders invited by the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Dharashiv (Phone No. 02472-222882/83) B-1 from eligible contractors.

Website: http://mahatenders.gov.in & www.mahapwd.com

Sd/-
Executive Engineer Public Works Division, Dharashiv
DGIPR/2024-2025/1718

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client has agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner: **Smt.JAYANTHI,** W/o Sri.H.N.Nataraju, residing at: Ward No.14, Chikka Devanga Beedi, Anekal Post, Anekal, Bangalore-562106, through the **Agreement holder Sri.A.MOHAMMED HANEEF,** S/o Late Ameer Sab, residing at: No.25, 9th Main, Near St.Thomas School, BTM 1st Stage, Bangalore-560029.

Apart from the said owner, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim or charge or either by way of Agreement or Mortgage or maintenance or any other right or charge or lien in or over the Schedule property, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the supporting legal documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within **14 days** from the date of Publication of this Notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal No.8, PID No.66-166-8, measuring East to West (48+52)/2 ft and North to South 60 ft, with a building thereon, situated at 1st 'B' Cross, Tavarekere, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Road (formerly private property),
West by : Property bearing No.10,
North by : Private Property,
South by : Road.

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners, **SMT.GEETHA.R** W/o late C.G.Ramesh and her daughter **SMT.AISHWARYA RAMESH,** residing at: No.170, 18th Cross, M.C.Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru – 560040.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal No.32, PID No.30-6-32, admeasuring 2405.02 Sq.ft, situated at Sethu Rao Street, K.R.Market, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Property of Sri.C.G.Bhaskar
West by : Municipal Drain
North by : Muslim Hall Road
South by : Haji Mohammed Abdulla Hussain's Mandi

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MSME - TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Process & Product Development Centre, Agra
Government of India Society (EC-Thiruvalla, Kerala)
PPDC

ONLINE WORKSHOP ON START YOUR OWN EXPORT BUSINESS
(Customs Formalities & Linear Operations)

TOPICS COVERED : 16th, 17th & 18th August 2024 (Duration: 3 Days)

- *Export Import Proceedure.* ● *Linear Formality* ● *Custom Formality*
- *Port Proceedure* ● *Goverment Scheme* ● *Awareness about EPC*
- *How to start Export* ● *Business Market* ● *Trends in Export Import*

Timing: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Course Fees :- Rs.2360/-
For Registration Scan QR Code.
Contact number :- 9944971623,8129988725
Certificate will be Awarded

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public are hereby notified that, our client Sri Virainder Sharma, S/o B.R. Sharma, R/at Kailash Building, No.21, Kodichikkanahalli Main Road, Kaveri Nagar, Bomanahalli, Bengaluru-560068 is the owner of site property bearing No.55, PID No.21-126-55, 4th Stage, 3rd Block, West of Chord Road, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore, (**Schedule Property**) and he had executed Joint Development Agreement dated 06/12/2018, registered as document No.SRI-1-04728/2018-19, Book-I, CD No.SRID221 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar (Srirampuram), Bengaluru and also executed GPA dated 06/12/2018, registered as document No.SRI-4-00132/2018-19, Book-I, CD No.SRID221 with Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar (Srirampuram), Bengaluru in favour Sri.S.Sampath Raje Urs, S/o SugandhrajeUrs, R/at No.265, 8th Main Road, B C C Layout, Chandralayout, Bengaluru-560 040. The said GPA and JDA by virtue of the Award passed on 30/03/2023 in AC.No.372/2022 by the Arbitral Tribunal of Shri Kukkaje Ramakrishna Bhat, Sole Arbitrator, At Arbitration & Conciliation Centre, Bangalore were cancelled.

Our client Sri.Virainder Sharma, S/o B.R.Sharma call upon general public any person/s who ever transact with Sri.S.Sampath Raje Urs, S/o Sugandhraje Urs, in respect of schedule property after Award passed by the Arbitral Tribunal of Shri.Kukkaje Ramakrishna Bhat, Sole Arbitrator, Bangalore, dated 30/03/2023 in AC.No.372/2022 in any manner either for purchase of the schedule property or entering into any kind of agreements/transactions without consent of my client in writing, they will be doing so at their own risk and consequences and my client will not be responsible for such illegal transactions. Even after any transact or create charge with respect to the schedule property, said transactions are not valid in the eye of law and our client is no way responsible and the same is not binding to him.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential site bearing No.55, PID No.21-126-55, formed in Sy No. 61/1, Agrahara Dasarahalli, YeshawanthapuraHobli, Bangalore and now called as 4th Stage, 3rd Block, West of Chord Road, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore, Now comes within the BBMP jurisdiction ward No. 105 (Agrahara Dasarahalli) Bangalore, measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring about 2400 sqft and bounded on :-

East by : Site No. 50, West by : Road, North by : Site No.53 and 54, South by : Site No.56.

M.K. LOKESHA
M.T. NANAIAH ASSOCIATES
No.14, Mamatha 'A' Apartment, 201, II Floor, 4th Main, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009. M.No. 9844110822

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE II ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT, BENGALURU

O.S. No. 1218 of 2023

BETWEEN : K.C. PRAMOD MOULI, S/o Sri (Late) K.S. Chandramouleswara, Aged 33 years, R/o No. 21, 3rd Cross, Behind Vijaya Bank, Shivananda Nagara, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru - 560 072. **...PLAINTIFF**

AND: 1. Smt. N.R. Lakshmi, Wife of B. Narayana, Aged 58 years, R/o No.1, BWSSB Road, Hosaguddadahalli Layout, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560026.

2. **Smt. Uma Krishna,** Wife of S.B. Krishna, Aged 52 years, R/o Sorekayidoddi Village, Satanur Hobli & Post, Kanakapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist.

3. **Smt. Devamma,** Wife of Sri Basavaraju, Aged 62 years, R/o No.23, 5th Cross, 12th Main, T.R. Shamanna Nagara, Sri Nagara, Bengaluru - 560050

4. **Smt. V. Manjula,** Wife of Sri T. Venkatesh, Aged 43 years, R/o No. 350, 2nd Cross, 17th Main Road, BSK 3rd Stage, Muneshwara Block, Bengaluru - 560026.

5. **Smt. Jayamma,** Aged 75 years, Wife of Sri Ramalingaiah, R/o No. 1507, 18th Main Road, Muneshwara Block, Avalahalli, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560026. **...DEFENDANTS**

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT No.1 & DEFENDANT No.2

1. **Smt. N.R. LAKSHMI,** wife of B. Narayana, aged about 58 years, residing at No.1, BWSSB Road, Hosaguddadahalli Layout, Mysore Road, Bengaluru- 560 026. ...Defendant No.1

2. **Smt. UMA KRISHNA,** wife of S.B. Krishna, aged about 52 years, residing at Sorekayidoddi Village, Satanur Hobli & Post, Kanakapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. ...Defendant No.2

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit seeking inter alia a declaration that the sale deeds dated 15.03.2006, 21.08.2006 and 31.07.2006 executed in favour of Defendant Nos.1, 2 & 3 in respect of the suit Schedule B Properties are invalid, null and void and not binding on the Plaintiff.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the II Additional Senior Civil Judge, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru, in person or by a pleader duly instructed to answer to the same **on the 10th day of September 2024 at 11.00 A.M.,** failing which the suit will be disposed of ex-parte.

SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Survey No.55/3 of Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring 2 Acres 28 Guntas **and bounded on** East by : Private property (earlier belongs to Venkatappa); West by : Private property (earlier belongs to Hanumaiah); North by : Govt. Road; South by : Govt. Road;

SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY

Item 1 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 59, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : 25 Feet Road; West by : Private property; North by : Site No. 58; South by : Site No. 60;

Item 2 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 64, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : 25 Feet Road; West by : Private property; North by : Site No. 63; South by : Site No. 65;

Item 3 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 28, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : Road; West by : Site No. 51; North by : Site No. 27; South by : Site No. 29;

Item 4 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 24, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : Site No. 3; West by : Road; North by : Site No. 25; South by : Remaining southern portion of the same property;

Item 5 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 25, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : Site No. 3; West by : 25 Feet Road; North by : Site on southern portion of Site No.26; South by : Site No. 24;

BY ORDER OF COURT, SHERISTEDAR, II. ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE

Advocate for Plaintiff :
M/s. SUNDARASWAMY & RAMDAS Advocates, No.24, "Keshava Nivas", Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009.

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE II ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT, BENGALURU

O.S. No. 1218 of 2023

BETWEEN : K.C. PRAMOD MOULI, S/o Sri (Late) K.S. Chandramouleswara, Aged 33 years, R/o No. 21, 3rd Cross, Behind Vijaya Bank, Shivananda Nagara, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru - 560 072. **...PLAINTIFF**

AND: 1. Smt. N.R. Lakshmi, Wife of B. Narayana, Aged 58 years, R/o No.1, BWSSB Road, Hosaguddadahalli Layout, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560026.

2. **Smt. Uma Krishna,** Wife of S.B. Krishna, Aged 52 years, R/o Sorekayidoddi Village, Satanur Hobli & Post, Kanakapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist.

3. **Smt. Devamma,** Wife of Sri Basavaraju, Aged 62 years, R/o No.23, 5th Cross, 12th Main, T.R. Shamanna Nagara, Sri Nagara, Bengaluru - 560050

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5. **Smt. Jayamma,** Aged 75 years, Wife of Sri Ramalingaiah, R/o No. 1507, 18th Main Road, Muneshwara Block, Avalahalli, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560026. **...DEFENDANTS**

NOTICE ON I.A. Nos. 4 to 6 TO PROPOSED DEFENDANT Nos. 3(a) and 3(b) - LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF LATE Smt. DEVAMMA (DEFENDANT No. 3)

3(a) **BASAVARAJU,** husband of late Smt. Devamma, father's name not known, Major by age,

3(b) **MANJUNATH,** Son of Sri Basavaraju and late Smt. Devamma, Major by age,

Both Residing at No.23, 5th Cross, 12th Main, T.R. Shamanna Nagara, Srinagara, Bengaluru-560 050.

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit seeking inter alia a declaration that the sale deeds dated 15.03.2006, 21.08.2006 and 31.07.2006 executed in favour of Defendant Nos.1, 2 & 3 in respect of the suit Schedule B Properties are invalid, null and void and not binding on the Plaintiff. Upon the death of Smt. Devamma, the Defendant No. 3, Plaintiff has filed necessary applications to bring her legal representatives on record.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the II Additional Senior Civil Judge, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru, in person or by a pleader duly instructed to answer to the same **on the 10th day of September 2024 at 11.00 A.M.,** failing which the suit will be disposed of ex-parte.

SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Survey No.55/3 of Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring 2 Acres 28 Guntas **and bounded on** East by : Private property (earlier belongs to Venkatappa); West by : Private property (earlier belongs to Hanumaiah); North by : Govt. Road; South by : Govt. Road;

SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY

Item 1 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 59, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : 25 Feet Road; West by : Private property; North by : Site No. 58; South by : Site No. 60;

Item 2 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 64, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : 25 Feet Road; West by : Private property; North by : Site No. 63; South by : Site No. 65;

Item 3 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 28, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : Road; West by : Site No. 51; North by : Site No. 27; South by : Site No. 29;

Item 4 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 24, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : Site No. 3; West by : Road; North by : Site No. 25; South by : Remaining southern portion of the same property;

Item 5 : All the piece and parcel of the site No. 25, Khata No.55/3, Challaghatta Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet **and bounded on** East by : Site No. 3; West by : 25 Feet Road; North by : Site on southern portion of Site No.26; South by : Site No. 24;

BY ORDER OF COURT, SHERISTEDAR, II. ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE

Advocate for Plaintiff :
M/s. SUNDARASWAMY & RAMDAS Advocates, No.24, "Keshava Nivas", Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRAVEEN Kumar P, S/o L Prasad, R/at Nagara Kunte, Katari Palya, Kolar, Karnataka-563101, have changed my name to Praveen Michael James P, vide affidavit dated: 29.07.2024 before Notary C.V.Earappa, Bengaluru, vide Gazette Notification No. 123/2024-25

I, KOMATHY K, W/o. Maria Rajendra Prasad, residing at #238, North Gilberts, Marikuppam, Bangarapet Taluk, Kolar District 563119, have changed my name to Komathy Christina Mercel vide Affidavit Dated: 07/08/2024, sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Bengaluru

SITUATION VACANT

WALK – IN

ANI THE RIGHT KIND OF PEOPLE
Walk In Interviews 11th August

Panel Operators / Control Room Operator for Refinery Operations at our International and Domestic Sites.

Qualification : Diploma Chemical / B.Sc. Chemistry / B.E. / B.Tech. Chemical - 5+ Years Exp.

Interview Location	Contact Person	Contact Number
Bathinda	Prince Singh	7016524715
Panipat	Salim	9802749033
Mangalore	Santosh Shetty	9945751554
Jamnagar	Rohit	9725619788
Paradeep	K B Singh	8140716131
Vizag	L B Yadav	7016924978
Barmer	Naresh Mali	9929891309
Hazira	Vinod Desai	9924114636
Haldia	Saurabh Basu	7678417536

Send resumes on recruitment10@aniintegrated.com

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A still from *Gladiator*.

The comeback of epic movies, albeit without imagination

Sword-and-sandal sagas are seeing yet another revival with the recent series, *Those About to Die*, and the November release of Ridley Scott's *Gladiator II*. A look at how the depictions of the classical age have changed thanks to CGI and millennial sensibilities

Mini Anthikad Chhibber

In the beginning there was, no, not the word, though that too was there, but we are talking of the beginning of Hollywood's mining of The Bible for spectacle on screen – therefore, in the beginning there *was* the Word. The '50s and '60s were the golden age of epic spectacle in Hollywood with 1959's *Ben-Hur* being the jewel in the multi-hued crown.

The naval battle and the chariot race still rocks as does Charlton Heston as the Jewish Prince who is done wrong by his best friend turned nasty foe, the Roman Messala (Stephen Boyd). Ben-Hur's roaring rampage of revenge is only staunched when he witnesses Christ forgiving those who crucified him from the cross.

The golden age

While some of the stories from those days were taken from The Bible, including Cecil B. DeMille's *Samson and Delilah* (1949) with Victor Mature and Hedy Lamarr and *The Ten Commandments* (1956) starring Heston as Moses, another prince in search of his legacy, and the scalding hot Yul Brynner as Rameses and Anne Baxter as Nefretiri, there were others that were Bible adjacent.

The Robe (1953), has Richard Burton playing the Tribune who commands the unit that crucifies Christ and how that experience changes him. *Quo Vadis* (1951), set during the final years of Emperor Nero's reign was the greatest fun for Peter Ustinov's turn as the Emperor – I can see him staring through the emerald in my mind's eye. *Quo Vadis*, meaning "whither goes thou", are the first words St Peter said to risen Christ on the Appian Way.

Stanley Kubrick, as always marched to his own drum, and with *Spartacus* (1960), he did so in a spectacularly quiet way. Set according to the voice over, "In the last century before the birth of the new faith called Christianity," the film about a slave, who became a gladiator and led a rebellion against the pagan Romans (yes, yes, Ridley Scott's *Gladiator* also follows similar beats) stars Kirk Douglas of the delicious cleft chin as Spartacus. Ustinov has fun as Batiatus, who recruits Spartacus into his gladiatorial school but it is Laurence Olivier as Crassus and his famous bathtub exit line to his slave, "My tastes include both snails and oysters," that shocked and thrilled film goers.

A digital turn

The millennium saw a resurgence of swords and togas starting with Scott's multiple-Oscar winning *Gladiator* in 2000. The Christian overtones were done away with as we all bowed and prayed to the digital deity we made and CGI was king. From increasing the height of a model of the Colosseum, to shooting animals against a green screen and compositing them to the frames later on, all kinds of VFX magic was bought to bear. Russell Crowe played Maximus, a Roman general forced into slavery, while Joaquin Phoenix is much more fun as wicked, incestuous Emperor Commodus, than a certain clown with a frown.

The Biblical epic saw a return 10 years ago, with Darren Aronofsky's *Noah* (2014) where Crowe played the Old Testament patriarch as well as reboots of *The Ten Commandments* and *Ben-Hur*. Scott's *Exodus: Gods and Kings* (2014) featured Christian Bale as Moses crossing swords with Joel Edgerton's Ramses II. Scott's *Alien* star, Sigourney Weaver, was also in the film as Queen Tuya. Timur Bekmambetov's *Ben-Hur* (2016) starring Jack Huston and Toby Kebbell as Ben-Hur and Messala, was not much fun.

A lack of imagination

Paul W. S. Anderson's *Pompeii*, also in 2014 was epically dreadful. Set against the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD, the film starred *Game of Thrones*' Kit Harington as a gladiator yada yada. Carrie-Anne Moss and Kiefer Sutherland, among others, looked like they desperately wanted to be smothered by the ash from Vesuvius. The film also proved that no matter how great the technical advances, nothing could take the place of imagination, which is comforting in a way, for the day AI can create a gripping film is the day Skynet truly takes over.

Ancient Greece and Rome featured better on the small screen with HBO's *Rome* charting the power struggles during Julius Caesar's time over two well regarded seasons and Starz' *Spartacus*. The latter created by Sam Raimi, told the story of the slave general who took on the might of the Roman empire over three excellent seasons.

Rome during Julius Caesar provides much fodder for drama with its battles, political maneuvering and crisis of faith about the divine rights of kings. Caesar took Rome to the pinnacle with his conquests and public works but also paved the way for its ruin, with the formula of bread and circuses

Those About To Die, which dropped on Amazon Prime Video last month, while loosely inspired by Daniel P. Mannix's eponymous book, which also served as the inspiration for *Gladiator* was toe-curlingly bad, with CGI not backed by any imagination. Hopefully, *Gladiator II*, also directed by Scott starring Paul Mescal, Pedro Pascal, Connie Nielsen, and Denzel Washington, will prove to be a perfect blend of state-of-the-art VFX and imagination. If not, we can always go back to *Ben-Hur*, the galley slave number 41, the exhilarating naval battle, and the goose-bump inducing chariot race. Incidentally, the chariot race finds echoes in the galaxy far, far away in Anakin's pod race in *The Phantom Menace,* no?

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

With political chaos and a government in crisis, Bangladesh has dominated the news in recent time. How well do you know our neighbouring country?

Venkataraghavan. S

QUESTION 1
What is the name of the highest civilian award in Bangladesh, equivalent to the Bharat Ratna in India?

QUESTION 2
Which river, arguably the largest in South Asia, flows through Bangladesh and is known as the Padma in the country?

QUESTION 3
What is the name of the traditional craft of Bangladesh where artisans create beautiful, intricate designs on textiles using a resist-dyeing technique?

QUESTION 4
Similar to the Boat festival in Kerala, there is a Bangladeshi festival that involves colorful boat races and is celebrated with much enthusiasm. What is it known as?

QUESTION 5
Who were the organisers of the "Concert for Bangladesh", on August 1, 1971, at Madison Square Garden in New York City. The aim was to raise international awareness and funds for refugees from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) following the Bangladesh Liberation War and the Bhola cyclone in 1970.

QUESTION 6
The Grameen Bank was founded by Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus in 1983. What was the unique characteristic of its approach to lending, particularly in the context of its borrowers?

Visual question:
Which UNESCO World Heritage Site in Bangladesh is famous for its intricate terracotta Hindu temples from the medieval period?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. A Career Golden Slam. **Ans: A player who wins all four majors and the Olympic gold medal during their professional career is said to have achieved a "Career Golden Slam".**
2. The players who have achieved a Career Golden Slam in Men's and Women's singles. **Ans: There are five. Steffi Graf, Andre Agassi, Rafael Nadal, Serena Williams and Novak Djokovic**
3. This is the only tennis player to achieve the Golden Slam, by winning all four major singles titles and the Olympic gold medal in the same calendar year. **Ans: Steffi Graf**
4. This American former world no. 1 tennis player was known as "The Punisher". **Ans: Andre Agassi**
5. This American tennis player is the only player to accomplish a Career Golden Slam in both singles and doubles. **Ans: Serena Williams**
6. At 24, this player became the youngest man in the Open Era to achieve the Career Grand Slam. **Ans: Rafael Nadal**
Visual: Nole refers to which player. **Ans: Novak Djokovic**
Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Vineet Giri| Anju Sharma| Tamal Biswas| Debarati Kar

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Shall we continue with our spelling rules?"
"No, I'm not really in the mood."
"Oh, come on! Stop being a refusenik."
"A what?"
"A refusenik."
"What is a refusenik?"
"Not what, but who?"
"All right. Who is a refusenik?"
"A refusenik is a person who is unwilling to cooperate with others; he is a dissident. For example, I don't want Ramdas to be part of our team. He is a refusenik.
The strike was a total failure. The Union leaders never thought there would be so many refuseniks."
"You said last week that you would discuss some more meanings of 'spell.'"
"Thanks for reminding me. One of the meanings of 'spell' is 'result in,' to add up to something, usually unpleasant'.
The government's action spells disaster for the private sector.
Another meaning is 'short or a fairly short period.'
We had a warm spell in December.
It also means 'a period spent in a job or occupation'.
He did a spell in teaching before he became a journalist.
'Spell' is also used to mean 'a sudden brief attack or fit of dizziness, shivering, coughing etc'. For example, coughing spell, dizzy spell. 'Spell out' means to say aloud or write the letters of a word in their correct order.
Please spell out the word 'accommodate.'
It also means to explain in the clearest or most detailed way.'
This report spells out the company's plans for next year."
"Who is a speller?"
"A speller is one who spells words. Some are good spellers and some are poor spellers. A book with exercises for learning spelling is also called a speller. Now are you in a mood to discuss spelling rules?"
"Yes. I don't want to be considered a refusenik."
"OK. Just one simple rule. When the suffix 'full' is added to a word, the final 'l' in 'full' is dropped. Mind plus full – mindful. Sinful; tearful, fateful. When the word itself ends in 'll', the final 'l' in the word is also dropped. Skill plus full – skilful. Will plus full wilful."
"Thank you. I must go now."
"OK. See you next week."
Published in The Hindu on December 22, 1992.

Word of the day

Insinuate:
introduce or insert (oneself) in a subtle manner; give to understand

Synonyms: intimate, adumbrate

Usage: *I insinuated that I did not like his wife.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/insinuatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪn'sɪnjueɪt/

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Siddaramaiah's resignation is the only solution

Congress government: Master of scams

Bengaluru: The scams in Karnataka MaharshiValmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation and in illegal distribution of MUDA plots have forced the common man to question the Congress government in Karnataka.

These scandals have tainted Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who has been preaching about power and social justice hiding behind the façade of 'Ahinda'.

The common people are questioning what the Congress government achieved in the 15 months after coming to power by promising a corruption-free administration. It is the responsibility of the Opposition to raise its voice on behalf of the people against this corrupt government. So, why does Chief Minister Siddaramaiah feel that the opposition's struggle is aimed at him?

Due to the fact that Siddaramaiah's name is associated with these scams, there is a strong suspicion that the administration, which is supposed to eliminate corruption and irregularities, is protecting him.

The government failed to clarify on both the scams in the Legislature. When the MUDA issue was raised, the Chief Minister ran away without even allowing a discussion. This prima facie made it clear that the Chief Minister was involved in the scam.

It is ridiculous that Congress leaders are accusing the Opposition of taking to the streets to destabilize the government while the reality is that we are fighting for the cause of the people

Suspicious moves:The words and actions of Siddaramaiah in both the Valmiki Corporation scandal and the MUDA scam have been suspicious from the very beginning. In the Valmiki Corporation scandal, he gave a clean chit to the then Scheduled Tribes Welfare Minister B. Nagendra even before the investigation had begun, and later sought his resignation.

After taking over the reins of the administration, the tenders and orders issued by the BJP regime were cancelled or withheld. But, not the 50:50 site sharing rule of MUDA. Instead, Siddaramaiah found it convenient to use this rule to protect himself.

From irregular transfers to the series of scandals that have been exposed, it is becoming obvious that the Congress government is the master of scams. Siddaramaiah's resignation as Chief Minister is the only solution for the truth to come out.

Why protect the corrupt?

Siddaramaiah has lost the 'clean image' crown he had awarded himself. Siddaramaiah himself has claimed that he is not at fault. If so, it is clear that he wants to protect the guilty instead of using the opportunity to clean up the system and punish them.

When Valmiki Corporation superintendent Chandrasekaran P. committed suicide, the local police intimidated and used pressure tactics on his wife. Whose influence was at work here?

The deaths of oppressed community officers, staff

- Valmiki Corporation superintendent Chandrasekaran P. committed suicide, unwilling to become a 'scapegoat' of money laundering
- Suspicious death of Yadgir PSI ParashuramChalavadi who tried but failed to quench the thirst of the 'transfer racket'
- Head Constable Mayura of Nelogi Police Station, Kalaburagi, was brutally run over by a vehicle while he tried to stop illegal sand mining
- The barbaric murder of Mahesh Kanakatti, a backward class forest officer of Shahapur sub-zone of Kalaburagi district

As soon as the Enforcement Directorate registered a suomoto case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and took up the investigation, there was an unnecessary outcry and suspicion cast on the ED.

A complaint against the ED was filed by Kallesh, an officer who had been suspended by Siddaramaiah himself for dereliction of duty, negligence and incompetence. It is ironic that Siddaramiah, along with his Cabinet, protested against the ED based on a complaint by Kallesh.

When the MUDA scandal came to light, the Urban Development Minister rushed to Mysuru overnight and returned to Bengaluru with the files. Instead of taking disciplinary action against the MUDA officials concerned, Siddaramaiah simply transferred them.

When dates for the legislature session were finalised, a commission led by a retired High Court judge was formed to investigate the MUDA scam. It was clearly a ploy used to silence the Opposition in the legislature session.

Siddaramaiah is well aware of the fate of judicial inquiries. A clear example is the judicial investigation report on the Arkavathy Layout 'redo' inquiry.

- Neat accommodation arrangement for the workers who have arrived from different parts of the State
- Special care in breakfast, lunch and dinner every day
- Special team to monitor health of workers, ambulance on standby for emergencies
- YuvaMorcha teams to ensure that there is no obstruction along the march route
- System to inform people about the MUDA and Valmiki Corporation scams
- Responsibility of the Padayatra to one Morcha each day, participation of office-bearers from across the State
- With 100 party workers from each district, 3,000 people participating in the entire duration of the march
- Party workers from eight Assembly segments joining the march every day
- Each days, meals prepared for 15,000 people
- Monitoring system by youth volunteers at every level, responsibility of wards

Scandals everywhere, the Chief Minister is in the middle of them all

Under B.Y. Vijayendra's leadership BJP takes on corruption with 'MysuruChalo'

Bengaluru: The MysuruChalo padayatra, which is being held as part of an effort to create public awareness against the Congress government's scams and present the Opposition's responsible fight against injustice, has been a success beyond expectations.

The State Government tried to stop BJP state president B.Y. Vijayendra's march to Mysuru against the MUDA scam in Bengaluru itself. This attempt to suppress the protest by the main Opposition party not only confirmed suspicions about the scam, but also intensified the protest and also public support for the march.

Determined not to give up the struggle and take it to a logical conclusion, B.Y. Vijayendra finalised the outline of the struggle along with the alliance partner JD(S), and together they marched to Mysuru.

Earlier, the government had refused to discuss the MUDA scam in the Legislative session, which sparked off the movement. B.Y. Vijayendra, who took the leadership in difficult circumstances, convinced the elders, and took the party leaders and workers of the State into confidence and implemented the plan.

Constant struggle: The BJP has been organising one movement after another to sound the alarm bell to the Congress government against its ineffective drought management, zero development and concerns of rising prices. The Opposition wanted to give the government a grace period of six months. But the Congress party did not even implement the guarantees as soon as it came to power as it had promised. The BJP had to organise a movement to get the Congress implement its own promises. The Congress succumbed to the BJP's pressure and implemented the five guarantees.

Highlights of role of B.Y. Vijayendra

1. Served food to the party workers himself
2. Jointly marched with JD(S) leaders
3. Whipped the State Government
4. Won over the party workers with his simplicity by sharing coffee with them at petty shops
5. Ensured the smooth organizing of the Padayatra with his constant monitoring and mentoring

While the Opposition raised its voice against the government for neglecting development issues in the name of five guarantees, even the ruling party legislators burst out against it and embarrassed the government. It was the Opposition that caught the Government turning transfer of officials into a scam. As the governance deteriorated, the people were fed up, which was reflected in the LokSabha election results.

The Gateway of Corruption:Instead of mending its way after losing the faith of the people in such a short tenure, the government has instead decided on an undeclared 'free for all', opening the floodgates of corruption.

It cheated the Scheduled Communities of their rightful share by misusing the money earmarked for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The government is trying to scuttle the peaceful and rightful protests against the Valmiki Corporation and MUDA scams by using brute police force.

Questions the CM needs to answer

- If it is claimed that there is an order dropping the acquisition proceedings of Survey No. 464 of Kesare village in 1998, what was the criteria for the same?
- Siddaramaiah was the Chief Minister in 2017. Wasn't he the Chief Minister who ordered that MUDA need no longer send land allotment processes to the State Government?
- MUDA introduced the 50:50 ratio compensation rule for land acquisition post 2017. But will Siddaramaiah, who applies this new compensation ratio for his earlier case, agree to apply the same ratio to all the land acquired by MUDA, KHB, BDA or other agencies?

07 Day Padayatra

130 Kilometres long

07 7 Public meetings

07 Towns and Cities covered

Winds of Change

The Congress' Janandolana has turned out to be advantageous for the BJP-JD(S) 'MysuruChaloPadayatra'. It has sent across the message that the Congress is pro-corruption while the Opposition is fighting against it.

Congress Trembling

This is not an election season, but the BJP-JDS combine went ahead with war-like zeal. The people responded with frenzy from the very first day. The people are convinced that the 'MysuruChaloPadayatra' is without any political agenda. They are joining the movement voluntarily with the aim of taking the fight against corruption to a logical end. The unprecedented public support for the movement and the padayatra has sent shivers down the spine of the Congress. The fear forced the Congress to take out its own JanandolanaYatra.The accused themselves taking to the streets has led to a hilarious situation. This has convinced the public that the allegations made by the BJP against Congress are true.

Joint Foray

The bond between the BJP and JD(S) is strengthening as they embark on a joint padayatra even beyond the LokSabha elections. It has sent a clear message to the masses that their tie-up was not limited to the LokSabha elections. Their joint movement against the ruling party as responsible opposition parties has enhanced their stature in the eyes of the people. It is not easy to attract people to public meetings and rallies even during elections. But the way the people have responded to 'MysuruChalo' in the middle of the monsoon and the agricultural season has boosted the opposition parties with additional enthusiasm.

5000 Crore Scam

The scam does not end at 14 plots allotted to the Chief Minister's wife. It is necessary to investigate the antecedents of all the plots allotted by the MUDA after the formation of the Siddaramaiah government. It is a scam worth at least Rs 5,000 crores.

The people are concerned and casting doubts on not only the CM, but also the ministers concerned, who are allegedly partners in the scam. If there is a transparent investigation, all these ministers will also have to resign from their posts.

Isn't it strange that CM Siddaramaiah will get 14 sites while one lakh common people, who applied for MUDA sites, did not get anything.

MUDA scam: Things people need to know

* When Siddaramaiah's family purchased the land in Kesare, it was no longer agricultural land
*The land was already formed into a layout, and sites allotted to people in 2001
*How were sites already allotted to people claimed to be agricultural land of his family? Is it legal to sell land as agricultural land when it is no longer so? Is it possible to make such transactions without the involvement of influential persons?
*Have the officers concerned visited the spot to give a report on whether it is agricultural land, or were fake documents created?
*The CM is questioning how his family's land can be given away to MUDA for free. But, the real question is, how is it possible for non-existent agricultural land to be acquired?

What is the Valmiki scandal?

187.5 Crore Scam

Huge amounts transferred to 16 accounts without reason

Each transfer is between Rs 4-6 Crore

Bengaluru: The scandal in the Karnataka MaharshiValmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation came to light just as the Congress government completed one year in office. True to the Opposition's claim that Congress is synonymous with scams, it was caught red-handed in this case. The government is not in a position to deny the scam.

It is clearly evident that a meticulous plan was hatched to transfer the money allotted for various schemes for the benefit of Scheduled Tribes to benami accounts. Without the support of influential and powerful people, it is impossible to transfer government funds so brazenly.

It is noticed that of the total Rs. 187.5 crore scam, Rs. 94.5 crore was transferred to 16 accounts in tranches of Rs. 4-6 crore each.

It is customary in Karnataka to send the files related to payments beyond Rs. 3 crore to the Finance Department. The money transferred to these 16 accounts range from a minimum of Rs. 4.12 crore to a maximum of Rs. 5.98 crore. These files have, therefore, been sent to the Finance Department.

The Finance portfolio is held by Siddaramaiah.

This clearly means that the transfer of money took place right under the nose of the Chief Minister. It leaves no doubt that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who is also the Finance Minister, is directly responsible for this scam. Another point of concern is that when any government department has to open a new bank account and transfer amounts exceeding Rs. 100 crores, they have to get approval from the Finance Department, according to the rules framed by the government.

The question is how Siddaramaiah, who is also the Finance Minister and his officers allowed the opening of the new accounts without their approval. This raises the doubt whether verbal instructions were given in this matter. Apart from that, it appears that the remaining amount of Rs. 89 crore has been transferred to 700 people. All of them appear to be the accounts of friends of the officials of the corporation and partners in the scam who were in touch constantly.

It is clear that these 700 people who were in touch with the accused - SatyaRajavarma and SaiTeja - do not belong to the Valmiki community. That means the money that belonged to the Scheduled Tribes has been transferred to benami accounts.

Also, it is certain that amounts ranging from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 2 crore have been transferred to these accounts. The SIT team has already learnt that no reasons were assigned for these illegal transfers, and no certificates are attached. Apart from this, the Central Government has allocated Rs 42.97 crore in the year 2022-23 for the development of Scheduled Tribes of Karnataka. Another Rs 40.70 crores was allocated in the year 2023-24 for infrastructure and housing development. It is significant that the utilization certificate for these funds has not been issued in the last 13 months. It raises suspicion that this Rs 83 crore too has been gobbled up in a similar manner.

Cover up!

There is no doubt that the whole scam would have been covered up if officer Chandrasekaran had not committed suicide. The scam came to light solely due to his suicide. The transfer of government funds to benami accounts was confirmed by the investigation of the SIT, which was formed by the government itself. Only a part of the money deposited in the benami accounts has been seized. The government is claiming that the money in the cooperative accounts also belongs to it. This is a clear attempt to hide the seriousness of the scam and whitewash the issue.

Why the 40-day delay in questioning B Nagendra? Why his name does not figure in the charge sheet of the SIT?

The SIT did not bother to seek out former minister B. Nagendra for 40 days after starting its investigation. It was only after the Enforcement Directorate started investigating the benami money transfer scam that the SIT, formed by the State Government, summoned former minister B Nagendra for questioning. There was no talk about the involvement or role of MLA BasanagoudaDaddal, the Chairman of the Corporation. Later, when the SIT filed the charge sheet, the names of both Nagendra and Daddal were missing. This further strengthens the suspicion that the scam was well-planned.

Questions without answers

1. Why was a huge amount allocated to the Corporation when the Election Model Code of Conduct was in force?
2. Isn't the transfer of money by the Corporation in haste while the Code of Conduct was in force suspicious?
3. Was the money transferred to Telangana because transferring money within the state would have drawn scrutiny?
4. How come the Finance Department was unaware when amounts beyond the stipulated Rs 3 crore were transferred to 16 different accounts?
5. Can Rs 100 crores of government funds be transferred to benami accounts without anyone's permission?
6. Is it not irresponsible for the person handling the Finance Department to claim that the government has nothing to do with the transfer of money?
7. How is it believable that low-rung officers managed the huge scam without the involvement or knowledge of higher-ups?
8. Isn't the entire amount transferred from the govern ment's official account to benami accounts part of this corruption racket?

The depth and breadth of MUDA scam

Bengaluru: The depth and breadth of the illegal land allocation in the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam is mind-boggling. It is clear that the scam encompasses many illegal activities, including creation of fake documents, favoritism, obtaining alternate sites in the form of compensation for non-existent land, and clear violation of rules even while seeking compensation.

The Chief Minister cannot escape from the scam claiming that when the land was allotted, there was a different government and his involvement is not recorded. He cannot escape liability by making frivolous claims.

In this scam, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathi obtained 14 plots, which is not a simple matter.

When we dig into the method of obtaining this land, the purpose for which compensation was obtained, in what context, and which plots were obtained as an alternative, many suspicious facts are seen.

What is CM Siddaramaiah's share?

The law passed in 2013 on land acquisition was implemented in MUDA in 2017. It stipulates 50:50 ratio of compensation for lands acquired subsequently.

But the land owned by Siddaramaiah's wife in Survey no. 464 was acquired on 6/1/1998. In other words, obtaining compensation in the ratio of 50:50 for land acquired much earlier is a clear case of violation.

As per the KTCP Act 1962, one must be a special achiever to get a stray site allotted as a 25% grant. Else, it should be sold only by auction. The public wants to know what special achievement the CM's wife has to her credit to be eligible under this rule.

High Court gives temporary relief to 335 doctors

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a temporary relief to 335 doctors, the High Court of Karnataka has stayed the operation and the implementation of a recent notification, which had asked all doctors who joined the postgraduate medical courses in Karnataka during 2020-21 or earlier and have completed the course, to register for online counselling to undergo one year compulsory government service.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order on a petition filed by Suvetha P. and 334 others, who joined their PG medical courses under private/management/NRI quota seats and began practising on completing the course back in August 2023.

The court made it clear that the interim order was s applicable only to the petitioners.

The petitioners have questioned the legality of the notification issued on July 17, 2024, by the Commissionerate of Health and Family Welfare Services, asking the petitioners and similarly situated doctors to register on the portal for assigning them to compulsory government service.

It has been alleged in the petition that after the petitioners completed their course, they were arm-twisted by the authorities to release their credentials for allowing them to pursue either further studies or begin work.

It has been contended by the petitioners that the notification, issued under the Karnataka Compulsory Service by Candidates Completed Medical Courses (Amendment) Act, 2023, which came into force in January 29, 2024, is not applicable to them as they had completed their PG courses before the amendment.

It was also alleged by the petitioners that the government, in the 2023 amendment, made several changes to provisions in the original Act of 2012, giving exemption to certain category of doctors and making compulsory service only for existing vacancies specified by the government.

BSc Nursing: RGUHS restricts admissions in 75 private colleges

University has cited violation of rules and lack of basic facilities, among other reasons

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) has imposed restrictions on admission to BSc Nursing in 75 private nursing colleges for the academic year 2024-25, citing violation of rules and a lack of basic facilities, and other reasons.

RGUHS has released the list of colleges to which admissions have been restricted. The maximum colleges are in Bengaluru (32). The remaining 43 are in Mangaluru, Udupi, Bidar, Chikkamagaluru, Kalaburagi, Chitradurga, Ballari, among other places.

Among professional health science courses, there is a huge demand for BSc Nursing.

Seats have been allotted through the Common Entrance Test (CET) for BSc Nursing since 2023. In CET 2024, 2.28 lakh students qualified for this course.

A file photo of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.

Karnataka has around 615 nursing colleges. Most of the management quota seats are filled with students from outside Karnataka, especially Kerala and the north-east.

According to the Indian Nursing Council guidelines, the minimum requirement to establish a college of nursing is that the institution should have a 100-bed parent hospital.

For the sanction of 100 seats for BSc Nursing, the institute must have a parent medical college or parent hospital having 300 beds, or above, besides the availability of teaching and physical facilities for the course. For the sanction of 60 seats, the institute must have a parent hospital with 100 to 300 beds, apart from teaching and physical facilities for the course.

For example, in a parent hospital having more than 100 beds but less than 300, only 60 seats will be sanctioned for BSc Nursing.

Other criteria are mandatory infrastructure such as a well-equipped building, a laboratory, a library, and teaching and non-teaching staff.

However, many private colleges failed to fulfil this criteria during a joint inspection by officials of RGUHS and the University Grants Commission.

M.K. Ramesh, Vice-Chancellor of RGUHS, told *The Hindu*: "We have restricted enrollment in 75 private nursing colleges, which do not have parent colleges for clinical practice and do not have proper infrastructure. This time, the nursing seat matrix was not even received from these colleges. On an appeal by some colleges, a review was conducted, but only four or five colleges may have improved the basic facilities."

Pose a question to Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy

#THTALKSBENGALURU

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Have a question about HSRP number plates, the Shakti scheme, KSRTC, BMTC buses, or the Muzrai Department? Get answers from Ramalinga Reddy, Karnataka's Transport and Muzrai Minister, as *The Hindu* will pose your questions to him on #THTalksBengaluru.

Mr. Reddy, an eight-time Congress MLA from Bengaluru, represents the BTM Layout constituency in Bengaluru.

He has previously held various portfolios, including Finance, Industry, Agricultural Marketing, Food and Civil Supplies, Bengaluru Development, and Primary and Secondary Education.

A seasoned politician with a strong grasp of Bengaluru's civic affairs, Mr. Reddy began his political career with the Bengaluru City Corporation Council from 1983 to 1988.

Readers can submit their questions about the Transport Department, State-run road transport corporations (RTCs) – KSRTC, BMTC, NWKRTC, and KKRTC or the Muzrai Department via email to thtalksbengaluru@thehindu.co.in before 12 p.m. on August 13. The interaction will be published on August 14.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated August 9, we have an Explainer on the new draft advertisement bylaws. Advertisement hoardings that were banned for six years are all set to make a comeback in Bengaluru. The Urban Development Department has issued a draft of the new Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (Advertisement) Bylaws, 2024, recently, which allows hoardings across the city, but in a more regulated way.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, AUG. 09	
RISE 06:07	SET 18:43
RISE 09:45	SET 21:53
SATURDAY, AUG. 10	
RISE 06:07	SET 18:43
RISE 10:29	SET 22:27
SUNDAY, AUG. 11	
RISE 06:07	SET 18:42
RISE 11:16	SET 23:05

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	27	21

Bengaluru Today
26°C The weather will be comfortable with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
25°C Day will be comfortable with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

High Court refuses to interfere with renaming of Basavanagudi ward

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday refused to interfere with a notification renaming Basavanagudi ward as Doddaganapathi ward in the process of delimitation of wards of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

PIL petition dismissed

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind passed the order while dismissing a PIL petition filed by Satyalakshi Rao and five others.

The petitioners had questioned the notification issued on September 25, 2023, renaming the ward in the particulars and details of the delimited wards of the BBMP.

Stating that renaming wards in the process of delimitation cannot be a subject matter to be agitated in PIL petition, the Bench also noted that the names of other wards too were changed in the process of delimitation.

Policeman among two held for sourcing CDRs for detective agencies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Continuing investigations into the unauthorised use of call detail records (CDRs) by detective agencies in the city, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) of the Bengaluru police on Thursday arrested a policeman and his associate for allegedly being involved in the racket.

Working in CID

The policeman, according to officials, was earlier with the technical cell of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and is presently working in Kolar.

He allegedly misused his official position to source the CDRs for three detective agencies and handed them over to his associate, who is from Andhra Pradesh.

According to the officials, the policeman, Muniratha, and his associate Nageshwar Reddy have been taken into custody for questioning.

"The policeman misused his position to source the CDRs for monetary gain. The requests were made by the detective agencies for their clients who are mostly having marital disputes, love affair, and business rivals," said an officer.

Unearthed in May

The racket was unearthed in May this year and the CCB sleuths had recovered 43 CDRs.

In May, the investigators had arrested Purushottam, 43, from Kengeri; Thippeswamy G.K., 48, from Marathahalli; Mahanta Gowda Patil, 46, from Anjananagar; Revanth, 25, from Vijayanagar; Gurupadaswamy, 38, from Dasanapura; Rajashekar S., 32, from Vijinapura; and Prasanna Dattatreya Garuda, 36, from Pune. These seven were linked with Rajadhani Corporate Service at Govindarajanagar.

Sathish Kumar J., 39, from Kothanur Dinne, linked with Mahanagari Detective and Security Solution Pvt. Ltd. in Prashanthanagar; and Srinivas V., 46, and Bharath K.B., 28, from J.C. Nagar, linked with Elegant Detective in Basaveshwaranagar, were the others arrested.

Government of Karnataka
TOWN PANCHAYAT OFFICE, KALAGI
TQ. KALAGI, DIST.: KALABURAGI, Website: www.kalagitown.mrc.gov.in
E-mail: ka.kalagi.tp@gmail.com Phone no:08474-200310

NO.: TPK/T.S./ /2024-25 DATE: 07.08.2024

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Long-Term Tender is invited by the Chief Officer, Town Panchayat as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement (KTPP) Act 1999-2000 under 15th Finance, S.F.C. Open Fund, S.F.C. S.C.S.P. and S.F.C. T.S.P. and S.W.M. D.P.R. Grant Action Plan Fund for the year 2024-25. Eligible, Interested Renewed/Registered contractors/agencies are informed to participate in Bid Document online through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
1) Details of work/goods services: (1).DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT23867 (SC_Reserved), (2).DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT23904 (ST Reserved), (3) DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT23891 (SC Reserved), (4).DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT24730, (5) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT24726, (6)DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT20971, (7)DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT20941, (8)DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT20997, (9)DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT20978, (10) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT24396, (11) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT24444, (12) DMA/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT23911, (13) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT23908, (14)DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT23901, (15) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT23894, (16) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT23886, (17) DMA/2024-25/SE3362, 2) Tender amount of work/goods services: **From Rs. 1.00 lakh up to Rs. 54.28 lakhs**, 3) Eligibility of Contractors: Registered Agencies, 4) Tender amount of work: **From Rs. 1.00 lakh up to Rs. 54.28 lakhs**, 5) Cost of Tender Application and E.M.D. Amount: Cost of Tender Application is as per e-procurement and E.M.D. for Rs. 1 lakh up to Rs. 54.28 lakhs, General @ 2.5% & 2% and S.C., S.T. should pay @1.25%, 6) Last date for submitting Tender Application through online: **On 19.08.2024, 20.08.2024, 21.08.2024, 22.08.2024 and 23.08.2024 at 5.30 PM**, 7) Date of opening Financial Bid: **23.08.2024, 24.08.2024 and 26.08.2024 at 10.30 AM**, 8) Address and Phone No. to be contacted for further details: Town Panchayat Office, Near Kalagi Post Office. Tq. Kalagi, Dist.: Kalaburagi 08474-200310 M.No. 7259697929 If there are any changes in the Tenders published, they can be seen in website address (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) Separate newspaper notice related to this will not be published. 9) Website Address: **www.kalagitown.mrc.gov.in**

Sd/- Chief Officer
Town Panchayat Kalagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/304/KSMC&A/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, CHITRADURGA-577501
(District Urban Development Cell, Chitradurga) E-Mail: ka.chitradurga.dudc@gmail.com

No. DUDC(2)SBM2.0/CR 17/2024-25 Dated: 03.08.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Deputy Commissioner. Chitradurga District, Chitradurga invites tenders in Two Tender Document System for Procurement of equipments and machineries required for setting up of Material Recovery Facilities at Solid Waste MRF Plant of Chitradurga District ULBs Package works as detailed below:-

Brief Description:- (1) Package 01:- Procurement for supply and installation of PVC flat belt conveyor mezzanine floor, PVC flat belt conveyor with wheels, PVC inclined belt conveyor with wheels and dry waste screening trommel with feeding and bottom conveyor equipments and machineries required for setting up of material recovery facilities MRF at Solid Waste MRF plant of Chitradurga CMC. Indent No. DMA/2024-25/IND2719 Amount Put to Tender (Including GST) (Rs. in lakhs):-94.40 EMD (In Rs.):-1,88,800.00 Period:-4 Months
(2) Package 02:- Procurement for supply and installation of transfer conveyor, underground and inclined belt m type conveyor equipments and machineries required for setting up of material recovery facilities MRF at Solid Waste MRF plant of Chitradurga CMC. Indent No. DMA/2024-25/IND2720 Amount Put to Tender (Including GST) (Rs. in lakhs):-17.70 EMD (In Rs.):-44,250.00 Period:-4 Months. **(3)** Package 03:- Procurement for supply and installation of PVC inclined belt conveyor with wheels, PVC flat belt conveyor with wheels, PVC flat belt conveyor mezzanine floor and dry waste screening trommel with feeding and bottom conveyor equipments and machineries required for setting up of material recovery facilities MRF at Solid Waste MRF plant of Challakere CMC. Indent No. DMA/2024-25/IND2721 Amount Put to Tender (Including GST) (Rs. in lakhs):-56.64 EMD (In Rs.):-1,13,280.00 Period:-4 Months. **(4)** Package 04:- Procurement for supply & installation of PVC inclined belt conveyor with wheels, PVC flat belt conveyor with wheels, PVC flat belt conveyor (mezzanine floor) and dry waste screening trommel with feeding & bottom conveyor equipments and machineries required for setting up of material recovery facilities (MRF) at Solid Waste MRF plant of Hiriyur CMC. Indent No. DMA/2024-25/IND2722 Amount Put to Tender (Including GST) (Rs. in lakhs):-56.64 EMD (In Rs.):-1,13,280.00 Period:-4 Months **(5)** Package 05:- Procurement for supply & installation of PVC flat belt conveyor (mezzanine floor), PVC inclined belt conveyor with wheels, PVC flat belt conveyor with wheels, equipments and machineries required for setting up of material recovery facilities (MRF) at Solid Waste MRF plant of Hosdurga TMC, Holalkere TMC, Molakalmuru TP and Nayakanahatti TP of Chitradurga District. Indent No. DMA/2024-25/IND2723 Amount Put to Tender (Including GST) (Rs. in lakhs):-72.57 EMD (In Rs.):-1,45,140.00 Period:-4 Months
Contractors can download the tender documents from the KPP Portal Platform http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Calendar of Events and other information are as follows: (1) Last date and Time for Tender Queries / Clarifications 13-08-2024 11.30 Hrs (2) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders 20-08-2024 17.00 Hrs (3) Date and Time for Opening of Prequalification Bid 21-08-2024 17.00 Hrs (4) Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid 23-08-2024 11.30 Hrs
Any changes in the tender conditions and Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through KPP Portal and will not be published in any newspapers.

Sd/- Project Director
District Urban Development Cell,Chitradurga

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/180/2024-25

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (CIVIL) CENTRAL ZONE,
ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Odisha undertaking)
PLOT NO-1143, VINAYAK NAGAR MAHANADI VIHAR, CUTTACK-04
E.Mail- gmocccz@gmail.com
GSTIN - 21AAACO2571K2ZM

"e"-Procurement Notice No. 01 /GMCZ/OCCL/2024-25 (on-line)

On-line percentage rate tenders are invited for the following works;

Sl No.	Name of the Work	Bid Identification No.	Amount put to Tender (Approx.) (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (through on-line transfer / as per DTCN) (in Rs.)	Availability & Submission of Tender (on-line)	Period of Completion
01	Extension of Block Veterinary Dispensary, Dasarathpur Town In the district of Jajpur	OCCL-JGP/01/2024-25	101.82 Lakhs	1,02,000/-	12.08.2024, 03.30 PM to 27.08.2024, 5.30 PM.	9 (Nine) Calendar months
02	Extension of Sub-Block Veterinary Dispensary, Chhatia in the district of Jajpur.	OCCL-JGP/02/2024-25	83.36 Lakhs	84,000/-		
03	Extension of Sub-Block Veterinary Dispensary, Jajpur Road in the district of Jajpur.	OCCL-JGP/03/2024-25	91.75 Lakhs	92,000/-		

Procurement Officer- General Manager (Civil), OCC Ltd, Central Zone, Cuttack.
Date of opening of the Technical Bid: 28.08.2024, 12.00 Noon.
Further detail can be seen from the Govt. website : (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)

General Manager (Civil)

CAD-788 OIPR-34177/11/0001/2425

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation | ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C), IDCO, IDCO TOWERS, BHUBANESWAR - 751022
Tender Call Notice No. H.O./P&C/EST-E-2642/03/04/2023/ 23373 Dt :- 06.08.2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Value of Work (Approx.)	Period of Completion
1.	Water supply to Bisiapada Industrial Area and restoration/ retrofitting of existing water supply system from river Daya to Khordha Industrial Estate a) Laying, Jointing, testing and commissioning of 150 mm DI K9 pipes for a total length of 2179 mtrs (approx.) with connect to the existing 300 mm DI pipeline for Water Supply to Bisiapada Industrial Area. b) Renovation of the existing Intake and pumping facility located at Tirimal, with construction of new jack well and inlet channel inside river Daya with laying of new pipe line to the pump house , and renovation of all civil mechanical and electrical instruments of the intake facility c) Replacement of all electrical equipments except transformer and DG set near Intake well site d) Supply and installation of PLC and SCADA system near Intake well site e) Retrofitting of the existing 300mm pipe line from Daya River Intake well to Khordha IE through WTP at Barunei Foothill f) Water Treatment Plant (Baffle Flocculator & Clariflocculator) Renovation work including all electro mechanical equipments,supply of 160 KVA DG set,etc all complete at Barunei Foothill	₹ 5.70 Crore	06 (Six) Calendar Months

Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding	
		From	To
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Towers, Bhubaneswar-751022.	Bid ID.No. P&C/EST/E-17/2024-25	17:00 Hours of dt. 16.08.2024	17.00 Hours of dt. 05.09.2024

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal www.tendersodisha.gov.in . Corrigendum or addendum if any will not be published in news papers and can only be seen in the e-procurement portal www.tenderodisha.gov.in as well as IDCO website www.idco.in.

Sd/- **Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, Bhubaneswar**

CAD-793: OIPR-14003/11/0036/2425

NOTICE INVITING BID
Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel.:(0674) 2380950; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in ; Email: drugs-osmcl@gov.in

Letter No.5581 Date : 07.08.2024

Bid Ref.No.:OSMCL/2024-25/OTH-DHS-I/06 Date:08/08/2024

Online Bids through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **supply of Insecticides and Larvicides as per the particulars mentioned below:**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	08/08/2024, 3 PM	
2.	Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail id - **drugs-osmcl@gov.in**	12/08/2024, up to 5:00 PM	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		14/08/2024, 3 PM	03/09/2024, 6.00 PM
4.	Date & time for submission of Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee and EMD amount as per section-IV of tender document	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		04/09/2024, 10 AM	11/09/2024,11.00 AM
5.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	11/09/2024, 11:30 AM	
6.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in and https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof. All notice will be published in the OSMCL website **www.osmcl.nic.in**. Hence the bidders are requested to visit OSMCL website **www.osmcl.nic.in** time to time for any published notice against the tender.

Sd/-
Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha

CAD-792 OIPR-10112/11/0003/2425

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

GBG Bill scores only slightly better than BBMP Act: Study

Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy identifies 10 missed opportunities in the Bill, including provisions for metropolitan Mayor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

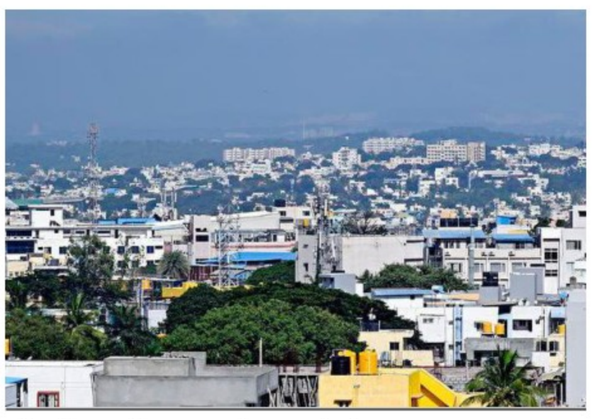
A comparative evaluation of the Greater Bengaluru Governance (GBG) Bill, 2024 that the State government tabled in the Assembly recently, has shown that the Bill scores only slightly better than the current Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Act, 2020, according to a comparative evaluation by the Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy.

The ruling Congress members had dissented against the draft of the BBMP Act, 2020, brought in by the BJP, in the legislature committee calling it a "missed opportunity to fix Bengaluru".

But the evaluation says the GBG Bill, 2024 is only nearly half as good as the draft submitted to the government by the Brand Bengaluru Committee.

The Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy did a comparative evaluation of the GBG Bill, 2024, the draft recommended by the Brand Bengaluru Committee, the BBMP Act, 2020, and the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976.

The evaluation was based on the four principles of urban governance: urban planning and design; urban capacities and resources; empowered and legitimate political representation, and transparency, accountability and participation. It was also based on 33 questions, scoring them on a scale of 0 to 10.



Rating the various Acts

	GBG Bill, 2024	Draft GBG Bill, 2024	BBMP Act, 2020	KMC Act, 1976
	Score on a scale of 0 to 10			
Urban planning and design	0	6.33	1.33	1.33
Urban capacities and resources	9	6.5	6.5	3.5
Empowered and legitimate political representation	4.55	6.21	2.73	1.58
Transparency, accountability and participation	2.36	4.45	2.36	1.74
Overall marking	3.35	6.5	3.23	2.04

While the GBG Bill, 2024, got a score of 3.35, the BBMP Act, 2020, scored 3.23, even as the draft GBG Bill scored 6.5, and the KMC Act, 1976, scored 2.04.

The GBG Bill, 2024, has scored a zero with no planning component at all, compared to the KMC Act, 1976, and the BBMP Act, 2020, which scored 1.33 each.

Janaagraha has identified 10 missed opportunities in the GBG Bill, 2024, including provisions for a metropolitan Mayor, Mayor-in-council, an ombudsman, among others.

While the draft provides for seven of these features, the GBG Bill, 2024, provides for none, Janaagraha has said.

"The expectation that the GBG Bill will usher in a progressive governance model, which could facilitate significant improvement in different aspects of people's lives, has been betrayed with the tabling of a very limited Bill. It is also disappointing to note that the government has chosen to ignore many of the desirable recommendations of the Brand Bengaluru Committee," said Srikanth Viswanathan, CEO, Janaagraha.

'Congress govt. has failed to keep promises it pledged to fulfil in its first year in office'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress government has failed to keep promises it pledged to fulfil in the first year of coming to power in its manifesto for the 2023 Assembly elections, said a report card of the government's performance in its first year by civil society organisation, CIVIC, released on Thursday.

The Congress manifesto had promised to fill all approved vacancies in government departments; all vacancies of teachers in government and aided schools and colleges; all backlog vacancies, and all vacancies in Kalyana Karnataka region. The report card found that none of these had been fulfilled.

The Congress manifesto had also promised to complete metro work under Phase 2 within one year of coming to power, which also had not happened.

Status of promises checked

The report card also checks the status of several other promises made in the manifesto, for the term of five years if the Congress came to power, in education, public health, employment, industry and Bengaluru development sectors, and found that one year on, work to implement many of these promises has not begun yet.

55 RTI applications

The civil society analysts filed 55 RTI applications to cross check 59 manifesto promises.

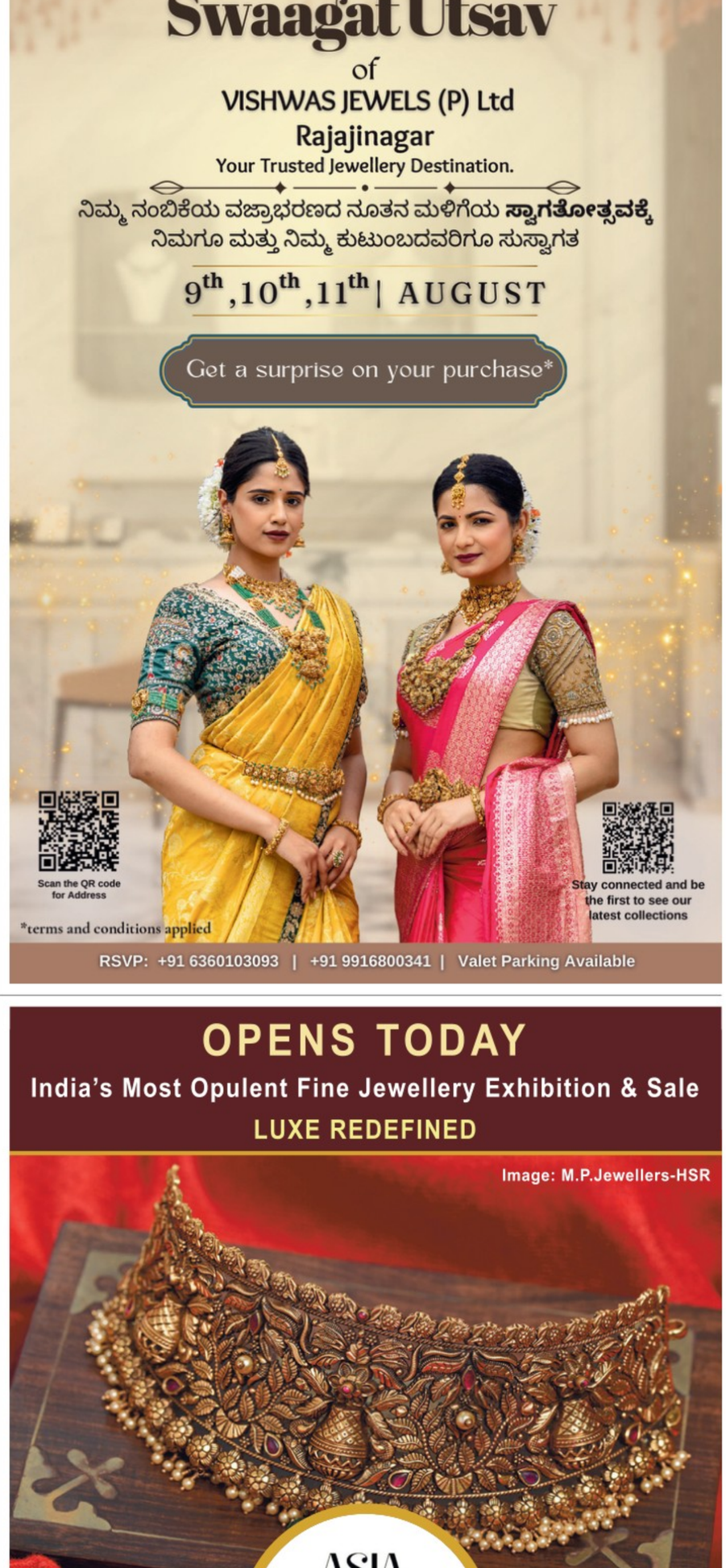
They found that only two of the 59 promises analysed were fulfilled, while work is in progress on 10 promises, and it failed to implement five.

George to hold regular meetings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Energy Minister K.J. George on Thursday announced he will hold regular district-level review meetings to enhance the efficiency of projects of the Energy Department.

"A new action plan will ensure that issues discussed in one meeting are resolved by the next," he Minister said.



TENDER NOTICE

Construction of Kondhane Dam and its allied works using Roller Compacted Concrete Technology at village Kondhane, Tal. Karjat, Dist. Raigad, Maharashtra.

CIDCO of Maharashtra Limited through the process of E-tendering invites **"ON LINE"** Item rate percentage bid from experienced prospective bidders fulfilling the mandatory eligibility criteria, registered with CIDCO Ltd. or with Central Govt., or with State Govt. of Maharashtra and its undertakings in appropriate class & Category, who have completed work of similar nature whose details shall be available on https://mahatenders.gov.in from 13/08/2024 at 17.01 Hrs. :

1. Name of Work: Construction of Kondhane Dam and its allied works using Roller Compacted Concrete Technology at village Kondhane, Tal. Karjat, Dist. Raigad, Maharashtra. 2. C.A. No.: 01/CIDCO/EE(WSP)/2024-25
3. Tender Processing Fee: Rs. 70,800.00 (including 18% GST (Non-Refundable))

Bid Documents along with Bidding Programme will be available on the website https://mahatenders.gov.in from 13/08/2024 at 17.01 Hrs.

Superintending Engineer (Water Supply)
CIDCO/PR/165/2024-25

CIN - U99999 MH 1970 SGC-014574
www.cidco.maharashtra.gov.in

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest

(RIL/E&P/EOI/2024/01)

(Under International Competitive Bidding)

Reliance is India's largest private sector company, with a consolidated revenue of ₹ 10,00,122 crore (US$ 119.9 billion), cash profit of ₹ 1,41,969 crore (US$ 17.0 billion) and net profit of ₹ 79,020 crore (US$ 9.5 billion) for the year ended March 31, 2024. Reliance's activities span hydrocarbon exploration and production, petroleum refining and marketing, petrochemicals, advanced materials and composites, renewables (solar and hydrogen), retail and digital services. Currently ranked 86th, Reliance is the largest private sector company from India to be featured in Fortune's Global 500 list of 'World's Largest Companies' for 2024.

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), as operator, on behalf of itself & its co-venturer BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced Contractors/ Vendors for following categories, for Deep-water Block No. KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6) in East coast of India:

Category Number	Category Description
OAM/KGD6/2024/1	Equipment, Materials & Services (incl. Administrative related services) for Operation and Maintenance of Onshore & Offshore facilities including FPSO

Interested Contractors/Vendors are requested to visit our website **www.ril.com** (**eB2B> Suppliers> E&P Notices for EOI**) for further details on the above and submit their EOI through e-mail on deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com, **on or before 30 August 2024**. Subject of the mail should mention **"RIL/E&P/EOI/2024/01"** along with category number. For documents size beyond 10 MB, Contractors/Vendors should request RIL through e-mail to provide FTP link for uploading EOI documents.

Address for Communication

Chief – Supply Chain Management,
Reliance Industries Limited, Petroleum Business (E&P),
Reliance Corporate Park (RCP),
Building No 11, 'A' Wing, Second Floor,
Thane-Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai - 400 701, India.
Email: deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com
CIN: L17110MH1973PLC019786

Reliance Industries Limited
Growth is Life

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY

(A Central University, Government of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008

Advt. No. IMU-HQ/R/NT/2024/01 **Dated : 09.08.2024**

Advertisement for Recruitment of Non-Teaching Posts

The Indian Maritime University invites applications from eligible and interested candidates for the following posts on Direct Recruitment basis. Interested candidates may apply through online from the link available at https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment The details are as follows:-

Women candidates are encouraged to apply

Sl. No.	Post Code	Posts	No. of Posts	Mode of Recruitment	Reservation	Horizontal Reservation	Pay as per 7th CPC
1	NT-01	Assistant	15	Direct Recruitment	UR-7, OBC-NCL-4, SC-2, ST-1, EWS-1	a. Ex-servicemen - **03 posts** b. PwD – **01 post** (Blindness and low vison / Deaf and Hard of Hearing)	Pay Matrix Level-4 of 7th CPC
2	NT-02	Assistant (Finance)	12		UR-9, SC-2, EWS-1		

Indicative place of posting: The vacancies are at HQ, Chennai and at other Campuses- Mumbai, Kolkata, Vizag, Kochi and Chennai.

The vacancies stated above are tentative and are subject to change. IMU reserves the right not to fill up any of the posts advertised (or) cancel the recruitment at any stage.

For further details regarding eligibility criteria: Age, Educational Qualifications, Experience, etc., please visit https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment

Important dates:
Opening date for submission of online application: 09.08.2024
Closing date for submission of online application: 30.08.2024

REGISTRAR

Making way: Road upgrading work in progress in the Sakleshpur–Gundya stretch of the Bengaluru–Mangaluru National Highway 75 passing through the Western Ghats. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

When conservation clashes with livelihood

The recent rain-related disasters have brought back into focus the K. Kasturirangan panel report that recommended declaring 37% of the total Western Ghats region as an ecologically sensitive area, including 20,668 sq. km in Karnataka, spanning over 1,576 villages in 10 districts. The implications of this on livelihoods have, yet again, left people sharply divided, finds **Sathish G.T.**

Visitors to Shettihalli, a village located amid thick forests about 20 km away from Shivamogga town in central Karnataka, have to pass through a check-post. The staff there enquire with them about the purpose of their visit and seek details of the persons they are planning to meet in the village. They also take a photo of the visitor's vehicle before allowing it to pass.

This is one of the villages that came to being after the construction of the Linganamakki dam across the Sharavati in the 1960s. A few families displaced from Sagar taluk due to the project meant to generate electricity for Karnataka were asked to settle amid the forest, which is now part of the Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary. Shettihalli is one of the villages that comes under the ecologically sensitive area of the Western Ghats as per the draft notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) according to the recommendations of a high-level working group headed by space scientist K. Kasturirangan.

Power supply

Around 100 families have settled in Shettihalli, which lacks basic amenities despite being located close to the district headquarters. The residents do not see a KSRTC bus in the village except during elections when State transport buses bring polling staff and ballot boxes. Until a few years ago, the residents used to reach Shivamogga by foot and even carry patients on their shoulders whenever they needed emergency healthcare.

"We left our place at Byakod in Sagar taluk in 1963 when work on the Sharavati hydroelectric project started. But, we got power supply only 60 years after settling here, that is in 2023. There is no public transport and no proper road," says S.G. Halappa, a resident of Shettihalli, who was five when his parents moved there.

Children study up to class 5 in the government primary school in the village, and almost all of them join a residential school for class 6. "Hence, only parents and grandparents are in the village. You will not see any students or youth. Maybe, after some years, the village will become a haunted place with no people," says Mohan Kumar, another resident.

For several years, the residents have been fighting for basic amenities. They approached court seeking electricity supply and succeeded in their efforts after many years. "That was a long legal battle. We are worried what our plight will be if our place is declared an ecologically sensitive area when our condition is already bad because of the existing forest laws," says Devaraj P., an advocate and native of Shettihalli.

Sixth draft

The horrific landslides during heavy rain in Wayanad of Kerala and the landslip at Shirur in Uttara Kannada in Karnataka, in which many people lost their lives, have triggered a debate over the relevance of reports on safeguarding the biodiversity hotspot – the Western Ghats.

The MoEF&CC constituted the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel under ecologist Madhav Gadgil in March 2010. The panel submitted its report in August 2011. In the report, the expert group recommended classifying the Western Ghats region into three levels of ecological sensitivity. Gadgil has termed the recent massive landslides in Wayanad as man-made as crucial ecological recommendations were rejected in the "highly sensitive area", where the disaster occurred.

> The report prohibits mega projects in the Western Ghats. The government should wake up and show the political will to implement the report.
>
> **AKHILESH CHIPLI,** environmentalist from Sagar

After the expert panel submitted its report, the MoEF&CC constituted a high-level working group under the chairmanship of Kasturirangan in August 2012. The committee visited various places, interacted with people, and submitted its report on April 15, 2013. The high-level working group recommended that 37% of the total area in the Western Ghats be declared an ecologically sensitive area (ESA). It included a continuous band of natural vegetation extending over a horizontal distance of 1,500 km. The group recommended the prohibition or regulation of development projects in the proposed ESA.

The proposed ESA includes 59,940 sq. km of natural landscape of the Western Ghats spread across Karnataka, Gujarat, Goa, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra. In Karnataka, the area includes 20,668 sq. km, spanning over 1,576 villages in 10 districts. So far, the MoEF&CC has issued six draft notifications. The latest was on July 31, 2024, ironically a day after the landslides in Kerala.

In Karnataka, much like in Kerala, whenever a draft is notified, people of the to-be-impacted region (in this case Malnad), including elected representatives irrespective of their political affiliations, oppose it. They exert pressure on the State government to reject the report.

The draft notification prohibits mining, quarrying, and sand extraction in the ESA. The existing mines are to be phased out within five years from the date of the final notification. Thermal power projects and red-category industries are not to be allowed. It recommends the prohibition of construction projects measuring 20,000 sq. m and above. It recommends organic farming in the area.

Following disasters in Kerala and Karnataka, many environmentalists have stressed the need to implement the recommendations of the Kasturirangan report. They say "unscientific" road-widening works and irrigation projects in the ghats are responsible for landslips in Karnataka.

Akhilesh Chipli, an environmentalist from Sagar in Shivamogga, stressed the need for protecting the Western Ghats through strict implementation of the Kasturirangan report recommendations. "I have been in favour of following the recommendations of Madhav Gadgil's report on the Western Ghats. The recommendations are democratic and effective. However, the Union government diluted the report by forming another group under the leadership of Kasturirangan," he says.

Though Kasturirangan's report, he maintained, was not as effective as Gadgil's report, it should be looked into seriously and implemented in the interests of people in the Western Ghats. "The recommendations prohibit mega projects in the Western Ghats. The government should wake up and show the political will to implement the report," he says.

Seeking attention: The government primary school at Shettihalli, a village of 100 families, located amid thick forests in Shivamogga taluk. The village lacks basic amenities. SATHISH G.T.

Forest encroachment in 10 Western Ghat districts and status of eviction

District	Extent of encroachment	Evicted	Yet to be evicted
Shivamogga	83,810	3,026	80,775
Uttara Kannada	29,881	1,573	28,308
Chikkamagaluru	31,459	5,480	25,979
Kodagu	8,818	2,531	6,287
Dakshina Kannada	4,060	210	3,850
Hassan	1,880	5	1,875
Belagavi	3,066	1,477	1,589
Udupi	1,096	120	1,786
Mysuru	1,681	237	1,444
Chamarajanagar	1,597	175	1,422

* As of March 31, 2024 | All figures in acres

Forest Minister acts

A series of rain-related disasters and a widespread cry in favour of measures for the safety of the Western Ghats forced Karnataka Minister for Forests Eshwar B. Khandre to order his officers to clear all forest land that had been encroached upon since 2015. He also directed them to act on unauthorised layouts, plantations, resorts, and homestays operating on forest land illegally. He has set a deadline of one month to act upon the instructions and submit an action-taken report. Later, the Minister announced a Western Ghats Forest Encroachment Task Force to clear illegal structures in the Western Ghats region, spread across 10 districts, under the leadership of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.

The owners of homestays are not opposed to taking action against those who run resorts and homestays without obtaining mandatory permission. N.R. Tejaswi, president of the Homestay Owners' Association in Chikkamagaluru district, says the association welcomes any action against unauthorised homestays. "Only those who have proper records for their land get licences to run homestays. If any people are running such facilities on encroached land, the government can act on them," he says.

However, with regard to alleged encroachments on forest land, he argues that people should be given a fair chance to defend themselves. "Officers should not act without hearing the other side. Let there be a survey of land and proper inquiry before evicting any family," he says.

Extent of encroachment

According to Khandre, more than two lakh acres of forest land in Karnataka have been encroached upon. Within a day of constituting the task force, officers at the district level began to identify such forest land. In the first instance, a team of officials led by Nandish L., Deputy Conservator of Forests in Koppa, Chikkamagaluru district, cleared encroachments on 36 acres at Tanudi in Koppa taluk. The staff reclaimed forest land by clearing a coffee plantation.

Similarly, officers in Shivamogga, Hassan, and other districts have identified places where more than three acres of forest land have been encroached upon. However, the Minister has made it clear that no house or land of those who have applied for a grant under the Forest Rights Act will be vacated. Data obtained from the Forest Department shows that as of March 31, 2024, a total of 1,67,348 acres of forest has been encroached upon across Karnataka. The officers have recovered just 14,834 acres so far. On the implementation of the Kasturirangan report, the Minister has said the Karnataka government will take a decision only after discussing the issue in the State Cabinet and with leaders of all political parties.

Political opposition

Irrespective of their political affiliation, elected representatives from Shivamogga, Chikkamagaluru, and Uttara Kannada districts have opposed the report. MLAs from the BJP and the Congress elected in the Malnad region have opposed the recommendations of the report and staged protests in the past. That finally put pressure on successive governments to reject the report.

Ramesh Hegde, a Congress leader in Shivamogga, says the existing forest laws are enough to protect and conserve the Western Ghats. The new restrictions in the name of the Kasturirangan report will affect the farming community severely and rob them of their livelihood. "We are not opposed to restrictions on mining or industries in the region. But, in the name of promoting organic farming, the report discourages the use of chemicals. Arecanut growers have been using copper sulphate to protect the plants from rot disease. As there are no alternative medicines to mitigate the disease, we have to use chemicals. Such restrictions will affect the farming community severely," he says.

Kalkuli Vittal Hegde, a writer and activist at Sringeri in Chikkamagaluru district, has once again given a call for filing objections to the fresh draft notification. "In both Gadgil report and Kasturirangan report, the studies are purely biological. The purpose of the study was to safeguard biodiversity. However, neither of the reports talks of the geological aspects of the region. There are no findings on the reasons for landslips," he says.

Landslips, he says, occurred due to both human activity and heavy rain. "The government has taken up four-lane highway work unscientifically. The vertical cutting of hillocks for road widening led to landslips during heavy rain." About Wayanad, he says that when it rains heavily in a short period, landslips may occur. "Against the forecast of 200 mm rainfall, the place received 570 mm rainfall. Neither Gadgil nor Kasturirangan gives the reasons for such heavy rainfall that caused huge devastation in the Western Ghats. There is no point in blaming resorts or developments of any sort in the Malnad region for whatever has happened now," he says.

'Why blame one region?'

He believes global warming and climate change are the causes of the heavy rainfall that led to landslips and destruction. "We know the reasons for global warming. Generating power by burning fossil fuels, dependence on petrol and diesel, cement production, and such activities cause global warming. Then, why should only people of the Malnad region suffer for the sins committed by those living in big cities who are more responsible for global warming?" Hegde says there should be restrictions on activities that contribute to global warming in urban areas.

Across villages on the foothills of the Western Ghats, there is strong opposition from the local people to the recommendations of the report. Many fear a loss of livelihood and eviction or at least further deprivation of access to amenities if the recommendations are implemented. While the people of Shettihalli got electricity at least 60 years after settling there, Urulagallu, also a relocated village in Sagar taluk, has not got power supply even now. The residents of Urulagallu, which is also on the list of villages as per the draft notification, have been fighting for power supply and roads.

Nagaraj Salakod, a resident of Urulagallu, sardonically says, "As there are no roads, officers have hardly visited our village to listen to our problems."

(With inputs from Hemanth C.S.)

In a nutshell

Meet the makers giving nut butters a spin with flavours such as coconut, espresso, and *thandai*

Nidhi Adlakha
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Peels Nut Butter,
Bengaluru

What was a weekend hustle for Payal Kini turned into a full-fledged business in 2022. "Back then, I headed retail operations for a Bengaluru-based bicycling company and I was cycling 100-plus kilometres every weekend. I needed better fuel to push myself to ride stronger, this led to experimental nut butter-making," says Payal. The catalogue comprises variants such as cocoa nib peanut butter, almond coconut butter and dark almond butter. "We play and experiment with our product line as offerings to customers," says Payal. "Our most unique offering is the dark almond butter comprising heavily roasted nut butter often mistaken for chocolate," she explains.

Upwards of ₹350 on peelsnutbutter.in

Banter Kitchen,
Hyderabad

When studying marketing in the US a few years ago, Ruchika Agarwal realised there were several barriers to eating healthy in the country and when she moved back to India in 2019, she went on to found Banter Kitchen with a range of nut butters. She says, "In India, the demand for nut butters is largely driven by an ever-increasing consumer focus on health and wellness." Which is why the brand's Hazelnut New-tella, a healthy twist on Nutella, is quite the rage. "It is made with 80% hazelnuts, sans added oil, refined sugar or any other emulsifiers or preservatives," says Ruchika.

Upwards of ₹250 on banterkitchen.com/

The Mindful Pantry,
Gurgaon

Known for its pairings such as banana and chocolate, orange-strawberry and chia seeds, cinnamon and vanilla bean, and mango and chilli, the Gurgaon-based brand was started by brother-sister duo Raghav and Vasudha Goel in 2021. "The idea behind starting the brand was to have products with minimal ingredients and different flavour options in nut butters," says Raghav, who says their USP is their unique flavours and that they use monk fruit (a plant-based sweetener) to sweeten their products.

Raghav explains that the flavours for their 10 nut butters were developed in-house. "We have received requests for some flavour pairings such as hazelnut with chocolate and orange, and pistachio with white chocolate from our regulars, and we will hopefully launch a few of them in the coming months."

Upwards of ₹225 on themindfulpantry.in

Bread spreads galore Breakfast need no longer be boring. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

STEPOUT

Celebrating sustainability
Under the Umbrella, by Archna and Daisy, celebrates homegrown women-led brands and artisans. This curated exhibition aims to support women entrepreneurs and encourage the use of sustainable products.
At Café Reset Koramangala, August 10, 10am to 8pm.

For a better future
Champaca Bookstore will host the launch of *Rooted in Power: Women's Grassroots Leadership and Climate Action in India*. This graphic narrative book by Asar highlights stories of hope and leadership by women on the frontlines of the climate crisis.
At Champaca Bookstore, August 10, 4pm. Entry free

Outsmarting outbreaks
Gagandeep Kang, a leading microbiologist and virologist, will be talking about how data, modeling, and emerging technologies can prepare the public for future outbreaks.
At Bangalore International Centre, Domlur, on August 12, 6.30pm to 8pm. Free entry.

'My songs must surprise people'

Composer Charan Raj talks about experimenting with the hit album of *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello* and collaborating with rappers in *Bheema*

Vivek MV
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Melody maker Charan Raj at work in his studio. THE HINDU / SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Following its release on September 1, 2023, the Kannada relationship drama *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello Side A* (SSE Side A) garnered a great response, propelling the film's protagonist and producer Rakshit Shetty to release the film's second part, *Side B*, in multiple languages across the country.

While the cast and crew, which involved director Hemanth M Rao and actors Rukmini Vasanth and Chaithra J Achar, basked in the glory, music composer Charan Raj, one of the pillars of the film, was too busy to be in the limelight.

Charan was involved in creating the music of *Side B* even as he was finishing up two more projects (*Bad Manners* and *Bheema*). The shy and soft-spoken composer does all the talking through his music. "All the songs were challenging in *SSE*," he says of the album that gained widespread love.

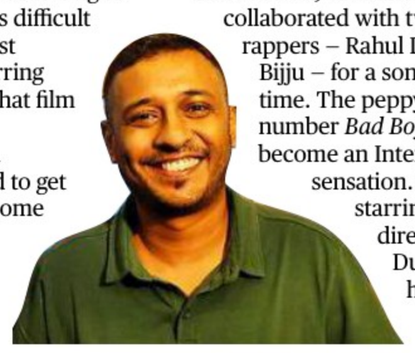
"But I found *Kadalanu* to be the most challenging," admits Charan. Sung by Srilakshmi Belmannu and written by Nagarjun Sharma, the simple melody is used briefly in *Side A*. However, it makes a major presence in the emotionally charged climax of *Side B*.

"It was the first song we cracked for the film, and the first song of any project is always difficult to produce. I had just finished *Salaga* (starring Duniya Vijay), and that film had many upbeat numbers. *SSE* was a different movie, and to get into its mood took some time," he explains.

"Composing music for *Side B* was an interesting process. We were all still fresh from *the Side A* title track. I couldn't get the tune of *Side A* title track out of my head. Hemanth wanted another version of it, and he said the song had to be intense. So the score you hear repeatedly in the movie is a riff taken from the *Side B* title track."

The songs of *Side A* had a strong retro-synth flavour. "Hemanth preferred that genre," Charan points out. "Before *SSE*, my second film with Hemanth, *Kavaludaari*, had strong synthesiser-based music. I like electronic synthesisers a lot. Learning about it has slowly turned into a passion. I watch tutorials. I love listening to retro synthesiser music from Aphex Twin and Daft Punk a lot."

For his upcoming film *Bheema*, Charan has collaborated with two rappers – Rahul Dit-O and MC Bijju – for a song for the first time. The peppy number *Bad Boys* has become an Internet sensation. The film, starring and directed by Duniya Vijay, hits the screens on August 9.



"To suit the film's high-energy and aggressive themes, we got these two talented rappers, and they brought their team, who were well-versed in beatboxing. We worked together for the song."

Hemanth's debut film, *Godhi Banna Sadharana Mykattu*, announced Charan Raj's arrival in the Kannada film music scene.

Eight years on, Charan has worked in just 16 films. He takes time to create his music. Yet, despite a small body of work, he has developed a strong fan base that loves his urge to experiment with each project.

"If you give time to music composers, we will try to create something new. When we don't have time, we become repetitive. In my case, I take a break if I feel I am getting repetitive. I learn new techniques during my break and try to understand genres I am not familiar with."

Some of Charan's songs did not make an immediate impact but have grown slowly on people, making them underrated gems. "That's the case for all my songs. For me, a song should be surprising. When I listen to my song, it should have an unpredictable quality. I strive to get that effect with each track."

‘State may lose out on grant if local body polls are not completed soon’

Expressing displeasure over elections to zilla and taluk panchayats, and the BBMP council being delayed by over four years, the State Election Commission says it has ‘forced’ the Finance Commission to put on hold ₹2,100-crore grant

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Election Commission (SEC) will write to the Karnataka government next week to take immediate steps to facilitate conduct of elections to zilla and taluk panchayats and other municipal corporations, including BBMP, whose term has expired. If the process is not completed by February-March 2025, the State may lose out on the one-time infrastructure development grant of ₹2,100 crore as recommended by the 15th Finance Commission, said State Election Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi.

Addressing presspersons on Thursday, the Commissioner said the Centre has agreed to release the grant if the elections are held and a final report is submitted by March next year.

Expressing displeasure that elections to zilla and taluk panchayats and BBMP have been delayed by over four years, Mr. Sangreshi said the delay has “forced” the Finance Commission to put on hold ₹2,100 crore grant due to the State from 2020-2021.

“There is a clause in the 15th Finance Commission’s recommendations that grant will be released only if elections are held for local bodies and an elected governance system is in place. Otherwise, the grant will lapse,” he said.

Stating that the Supreme Court in 2006 gave a clear direction to conduct polls to local bodies, whose term has expired, within the time frame, Mr. Sangreshi said it is the constitutional responsibility to hold timely polls. They have been delayed due to “discrepancies” in ward delimitation and delay in finalising reservation.

State Election Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi addressing a press conference in Bengaluru on Thursday.

He said the SEC has filed a contempt of court case against the government for not acting as per its statement given to the court in the matter of reservation for zilla and taluk panchayats. “The hearing in this regard is scheduled to come up on August 12 in the Karnataka High Court. The Commission will decide the next steps based on the developments in the court. If the government does not cooperate, the Commission will approach the court again.”

SEC prepared to hold BBMP polls based on outcome of SC hearing

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Election Commission (SEC) is fully prepared to hold the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) polls based on the outcome of a hearing in the Supreme Court in this regard.

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the matter on August 20, said State Election Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi.

Mr. Sangreshi said polls will be held irrespective of whether the Greater Bengaluru Governance Authority is formed or not. The Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill was tabled during the recent session. The term of the last BBMP council ended in September 2020.

No excuse

“The polls have been delayed by nearly four years. We have also submitted before the Karnataka High Court that any discrepancies or illegalities in the process of delimitation of 243 wards of the BBMP cannot come in the way of holding elections,” the Commissioner said.

The SEC had filed an application before the Supreme Court seeking that the stay on the implementation of the order of the Karnataka High Court be vacated so that the BBMP polls could be conducted.

Preetham Gowda told to exit from padayatra to assuage feelings of JD(S) workers

Sharath S. Srivatsa
MANDYA

Chinks in the coordination between NDA partners BJP and JD(S) came to the fore again on Thursday, as the latter successfully kept former Hassan legislator and BJP general secretary Preetham Gowda away from the Mysuru Chalo padayatra, seeking resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah over alleged irregularities in MUDA.

JD(S) sources said that Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, who had vented his ire at Mr. Preetham’s presence in the coordination meeting before the padayatra, expressed his anguish at the “behaviour of Mr. Preetham’s supporters” before the BJP Central leaders, and had urged them to keep him out of the padayatra. “

Had he attended the Padayatra on Thursday, it would have definitely led to tense moments since it would be difficult to control angry JD(S) workers of Mandya on the home turf,” the sources said. The Union Minister had cited Mr. Preetham’s presence in the coordination meeting as one of the reasons for initially announcing that the party would not co-operate with the BJP in padayatra, but later did a u-turn.

Unlikely on stage

BJP sources confirmed the absence of Mr. Preetham on Thursday when the padayatra moved from outskirts of Mandya to Srirangapatna. Sources said that he had been deputed by BJP State chief B.Y. Vijayendra to oversee the preparation for the culmination rally at Mysuru on Saturday. Sources, however, said that it is unlikely that Mr. Preetham will be seen on stage.

While the supporters of Mr. Preetham and JD(S) workers had clashed in Mandya after the latter objected to the former’s presence in the padayatra programme, the supporters of the former had raised slogans that allegedly irritated the JD(S) workers eventually leading to jostling. Leaders of both parties had to intervene to bring peace at the rally venue.

BJP and JD(S) supporters during the padayatra in Mandya district against the alleged irregularities in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

At loggerheads

Mr. Preetham has been at loggerheads with the family of former Prime Minister H.D. Devegowda, especially former Minister H.D. Revanna, over the turf war in Hassan politics.

While he was defeated in a bitter electoral battle in 2023 elections, he has been among those who have opposed BJP’s alliance with the JD(S). Mr. Kumaraswamy has also accused Mr. Preetham of being the “kingpin” in distribution of pen drives containing alleged explicit photographs and videos of former Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna.

Meanwhile, playing down the incident, BJP leader C.T. Ravi told presspersons at Mandya: “Nothing untoward has happened. We have to protect Mr. Preetham since he is a BJP leader in Hassan and also respect Mr. Kumaraswamy as he is NDA leader and Union Minister.”

Mr. Kumaraswamy too said that it is unfortunate that such an incident has taken place when padayatra is being conducted with good coordination. “This will not affect the alliance,” he said.

Appeals for calm

On Thursday, JD(S) youth president Nikhil Kumaraswamy also urged the party cadre not to get agitated with any mischief by unruly elements during the padayatra as the focus should be to highlight the alleged scams.

Nikhil warns DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The attack on Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar continued at the padayatra, with Janata Dal (Secular) youth wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy on Thursday warning him not to address his father and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy in the singular and in a derogatory tone.

“How would you feel if I speak about your father Kempegowda in a similar tone?” Mr. Nikhil said during the public rally at Srirangapatna. Taking exception to power cut during his speech, he said: “We have seen many instances of power cut politics.”

Proposed amendment to Waqf Act betrays BJP’s mindset: CM

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Describing the proposed amendment to the Waqf Act being introduced by the Centre as unconstitutional, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said here on Thursday that it “betrayed the mindset of the BJP”.

Speaking to media persons, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the Congress and the members of the INDIA bloc believed in the tenets of the Constitution and were opposed to the amendments to the Waqf Act whereas the BJP never believed in secularism. It is a party known to pursue communal agenda,” Mr. Siddaramaiah added.

He said the law related to Waqf Board was an internal issue pertaining to the minorities and the government’s interference in it was unconstitutional. “The BJP brought a law against religious conversion in Karnataka as also the Act against cow slaughter. We respect the Constitution and firmly oppose the proposed amendment to Waqf Act,” he said.

Personal attacks by leaders lowering the standards of political discourse in State

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

The State is witnessing political heat as the Opposition BJP-JD(S) coalition is taking out a Mysuru chalo padayatra to put pressure on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to quit in connection with the alleged irregularities. The ruling Congress too has launched the Janandolana campaign to counter the Opposition’s move.

The campaigns have gained significance in the wake of Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot issuing a show-cause notice to the Chief Minister on the “irregularities” in MUDA.

Padayatras have always played a crucial role in the State’s politics, but the two ongoing high-voltage campaigns by the rival political groups have caught public attention for all the wrong reasons as they have lowered the standard of political discourse owing to bitter personal attacks by prominent leaders.

In singular

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar, who is spearheading the Janandolana campaign, and Union Minister and JD(S) State president H.D. Kumaraswamy, who is one of the prominent leaders of the Opposition taking part in the padayatra, have been trading barbs at the personal level almost daily. In fact, the two leaders are referring to each other in the singular too.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is spearheading the Janandolana campaign, and JD(S) State chief H.D. Kumaraswamy (below), who is one of the key leaders in the Opposition’s padayatra, have been making personal attacks against each other.

Personal attacks between them have reached crescendo as the padayatra is passing through Ramanagara and Mandya in which the JD(S) has strong influence, making it a fight for supremacy in the Vokkaliga hotbed. The personal attacks between the two leaders appear to have deviated the rival campaigns from their main focus.

While the Opposition is targeting the Deputy Chief Minister instead of targeting the Chief Minister, the Congress campaign is solely targeting Mr. Kumaraswamy instead of clarifying on the allegations of irregularities. Some senior Congress leaders wondered why Mr. Shivakumar has “put himself in such a situation” of becoming the Opposition’s target.

Caution to all

Meanwhile, senior BJP leader and former Minister S. Suresh Kumar has appealed to political leaders to desist from public attacks as they send a wrong message to the younger generation. “It will be a disaster if everyone takes abusive discourse as a model of public communication,” he said in a statement. He suggested that the Kannada Development Authority play a role in organising a workshop to help political leaders engage in public communication without resorting to abuses.

Human-elephant conflict: A.P. seeks help

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on Thursday met Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre and sought the help of the Karnataka Forest Department to tackle man-elephant conflict in his State.

Mr. Kalyan, who also holds the Environment portfolio, led a delegation of forest officials and requested Mr. Khandre to provide eight kumki elephants to manage, drive, and capture wild elephants.

Mr. Khandre said that he would consider the request, however, he clarified that the kumki elephants, which take part in Jumbo Savari during the Dasara celebrations in Mysuru, would not be given.

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan with Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre in Bengaluru on Thursday.

“We cannot hand over elephants that part in the Dasara celebrations. We have around 103 semi-trained kumki elephants in our elephant camps. Even if we heed to their request and immediately transfer the jumbos, it will be of no use. So we have suggested that they train the mahouts and kavadis. We also assured them our team would help train their personnel in darting and capturing the elephants,” Mr. Khandre said. He said Karnataka has so far sent 67 kumki elephants to various States. In 2022-23, four elephants were sent to Uttar Pradesh, 14 to Madhya Pradesh, and three to Maharashtra.

Mr. Khandre said that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be signed between the two States during the International Conference on Human-Elephant Conflict Management-2024, scheduled to be held in Bengaluru on August 12.

Some of the key points of the MoU include formal institutional arrangement between Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Forest Departments for addressing man-animal conflict, deploying expert teams for elephant capturing, mahout training, training programme in running elephant camps, knowledge transfer, standard operating procedure for darting and capturing elephants, providing expertise in nutrition and food etc.

During the meeting, Karnataka forest officials disclosed to their Andhra Pradesh counterparts that they had seized ₹140 crore worth of red sanders in the State, which was smuggled from Andhra Pradesh.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

12th ANNIVERSARY

VUMMIDI KANNAN
23.11.1930 - 09.08.2012
There’ll never be another like him
Mr. Vummidi Mukundha (Son)
Mrs.Vummidi Manjula (Daughter in law)
Mr. Vummidi Rahul Krishna (Grand Son)
celebrating 120 years
VBKS
Vummidi Bangaru Kannan and Son
Ph: 044 - 2829 3727

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client negotiating to purchase all that property described in the Schedule herein from **Mr. N Muddu Raju** and **Mr. Venkatesh M** (Owners), who claim to be the owners of the Schedule Property.

Any person or persons ascertaining any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof and in any manner whatsoever against the Schedule Property based on the documents pertaining to the Schedule Property or objecting for the proposed development may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of this publication and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client/s and my client/s will proceed to purchase the below mentioned property as if there are no objections/claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.197, comprising of residential building consisting of Stilt Floor measuring 89.73 Sq. Mt., Ground Floor measuring 89.73 Sq. Mt., First Floor measuring 89.73 Sq. Mt., Second Floor Measuring 69.99 Sq. Mt., and Terrace Floor measuring 8.38 Sq. Mt., Totally measuring 347.56 Sq. Mt., of Built-up Area, situated at 4th Block Koramangala, Bengaluru South, Ward No.151,presently bearing PID No. 68-6-197 in the records of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Site is measured and bounded as follows:

MEASUREMENT:

East to West	: 16.05+16.15/2 Mt.
North to South	: 9.15 Mt.
Totally measuring	: 147.31 Sq. Mt.

BOUNDARIES:

East by	:	Road;
West by	:	Property No.192;
North by	:	Property No.196;
South by	:	Property No.198.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs, No.810,
‘BILWAPRIYA PLATINA’, 2nd Floor,
27th Main Road, HSR Layout,
Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102.
Ph: 99020 26199 & 80887 31020
Email: info@lexsitus.com

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA

4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru – 560 041,
Ph No.080-26961928 Fax-080-26961929

No:RGU/PROC/Cleaning Material/22/2024-25 Date: 08.08.2024

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (RFP)

The Registrar Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences invites tender for Supply of Cleaning Materials to RGUHS. More details on the services are provided in the attached Terms of Reference. **(Tender Reference Number: RGUHSK/2024-25/IND0013/Call-2)**

Tender document available for downloaded	**06/08/2024**
Last date and time for Tender Queries/ Clarification	**19/08/2024 17:30 Hrs**
Last date & time for receipt of Tenders	**21/08/2024 17:29 Hrs**
Sample Submission Date	**21/08/2024 17:30 Hrs**
Date & time for Opening of Technical Bid	**23/08/2024 11:30 Hrs**
Date & time for Opening of Financial Bid	**26/08/2024 11:30 Hrs**

More details can be fetched from website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

DIPR/spectrum/1361/2024-25

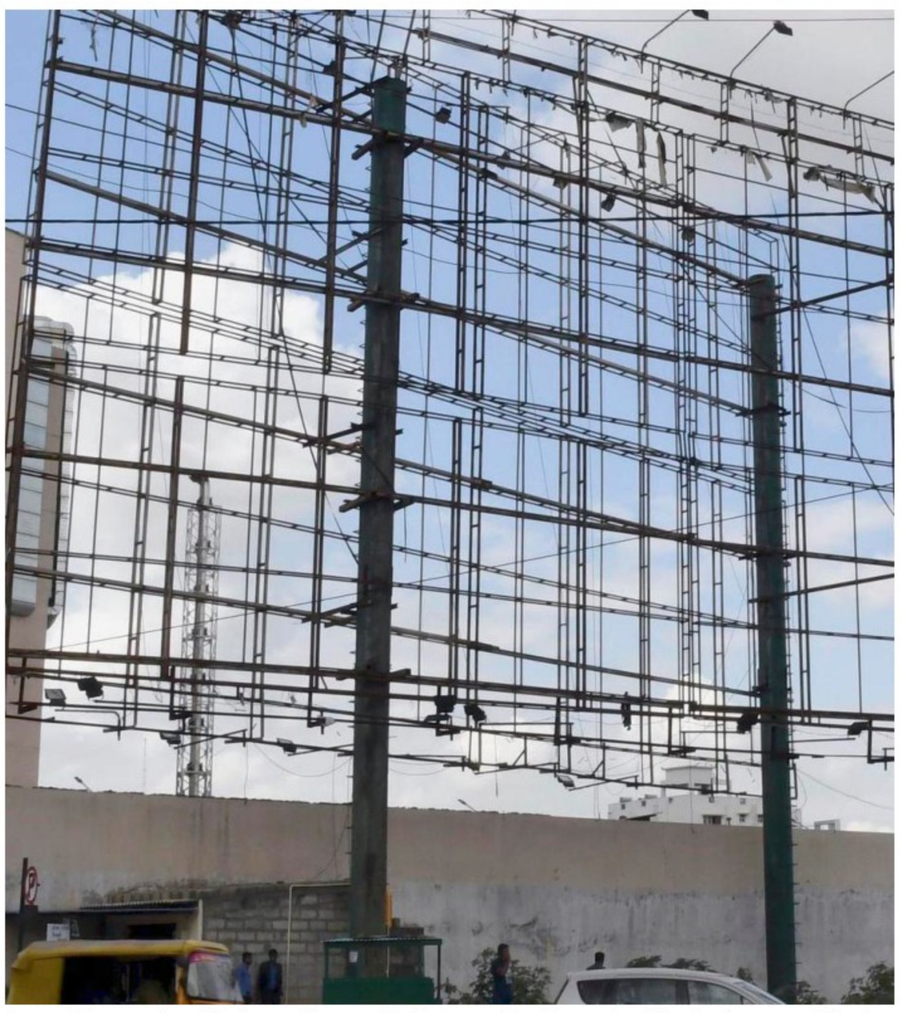
Sd/-
REGISTRAR

How the new draft advertisement bylaws and nudge from the HC are set to streamline hoardings in the city

The ban on all commercial outdoor advertising in a metro city like Bengaluru was not viable, as it killed a big industry and deprived the city's civic body of a good source of revenue

EXPLAINER

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU



In one of the prominent features of the new draft bylaws, all outdoor advertising has to carry a QR code, which upon being scanned should display the licensee details, and any hoarding that doesn't have a QR Code will be deemed unauthorised. FILE PHOTO

Some of the major restrictions on all outdoor advertising

- No advertisement, other than self-advertisement, shall be permitted on any road less than 60 ft. in width, outside industrial and commercial areas
- There shall be no hoarding or advertisement on footpaths and no hoarding shall be projected on a public road
- No advertising in any manner or cause to be advertised through any advertisement stuck, nailed, tied, attached, fixed or in any other manner on any tree
- No advertisement shall be permitted on the traffic lights or high mast lights or street lights or electricity poles on the roads or circles
- No use of any psychedelic, laser or moving displays
- No video or moving digital advertisements shall be allowed
- LED Displays etc. shall be still only changing of images after minimum 10 seconds shall be permissible
- The level of luminescence of a hoarding shall not exceed a source limit of 1rd/cm square and Illumination shall not be continued after 11 p.m.
- The neon-signs in residential premises shall not be flickering and the neon-signs shall be put off by 10 p.m.
- No ads can use any colour, words, signs that may be confused with any authorised traffic sign, signal. Use of words like words STOP, LOOK, DETOUR, DANGER, CAUTION, WARNING is banned

Story so far

Advertisement hoardings that were banned for six years are all set to make a comeback in Bengaluru. The Urban Development Department (UDD) has issued a draft of the new Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) (Advertisement) Bylaws, 2024, recently, which allows hoardings across the city, but in a more regulated way.

Why were hoardings banned?

Though the city's civic body had advertising bylaws earlier, where permission was required to put up outdoor advertising in the city, its enforcement was lax. Hearing a Public Interest Litigation on illegal hoardings in Bengaluru, the High Court of Karnataka set multiple deadlines for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to remove illegal hoardings in 2017 and came down heavily on the civic body for its failures.

In November 2017, the then Chairman of BBMP Standing Committee on Taxation and Finance M.K. Gunashekhar conceded that the twin objectives of maintaining the aesthetics of the streets and revenue collection of ad bylaws were not being met. He had blamed the deemed permission provision in the bylaw where an application was deemed to be approved if it was not acted upon within 45 days, for mushrooming hoardings in the city. BBMP began the process of amending this particular provision in the Karnataka Municipal Corporation Act, 1976.

However, the then State government went ahead and banned all hoardings in the city except in Public Private Partnerships like skywalks and toilets that were built by private firms in exchange for commercial ad space. BBMP Outdoor Advertisement and Public Message Bye-laws, 2018, banned all other forms of commercial advertising in the city.

What are the arguments for bring back ad hoardings?

The ban on all commercial outdoor advertising in a metro city like Bengaluru was not viable, as it killed a big industry and deprived the city's civic body of a good source of revenue. Many argued for advertising to be brought back in a regulated way. In January 2024, the High Court of Karnataka also refused to give directions for a blanket ban on hoardings in the city.

Following this the state government has now notified the Draft Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) (Advertisement) Bye-laws, 2024, which proposes to bring back outdoor advertising albeit in a very regulated manner.

How are various concerns about ads addressed

The draft bylaws have addressed some of the main concerns about outdoor advertising in the city. For instance, it bans all forms of advertising on roads of width less than 60 feet, but for commercial and industrial hubs. It bans all advertising on trees, street lights and electric poles. The bylaws ban any advertising abutting public roads, 50 feet from a traffic signal on all arms of the signal, 50 metres from any place of worship etc. Even as it bans any video advertising, it imposes restrictions on neon lights as well.

The draft bylaws create an Advertisement Regulatory Committee, headed by Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, which will decide the larger ad policy in the city. Meanwhile, the Chief Civic Commissioner will decide the stretches of roads on which outdoor advertising will be allowed in the city. Advertising will be allowed only in these areas. Further, the draft bylaws explicitly ban any form of outdoor advertising around Vidhana Soudha, the administrative nerve centre of the State.

The draft bylaws allow for advertisements to be put up at every 100 metres of these stretches of the roads so notified. It stipulates the size of the hoardings to a maximum of 40/20 feet on roads for every 100 metres stretch of the road (combining length along both sides of the road) and to a horizontal width of a maximum of 60 feet at circles. The entire process of tendering out advertisement rights will be online, the draft bylaws say.

The draft bylaws for the first time, allows other agencies like Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) and other government agencies to rent out their spaces for advertising. This means that Metro and BMTC can now issue independent contracts for advertising on metro pillars, metro stations, bus stands, and other properties.

How revenue generation is envisaged

The draft bylaws fixes a minimum ground rent in the range of ₹40 - ₹110/sqft of advertising based on the guidance value of the area, which can further go up in the auction/tender. This will be several times higher than what was prescribed earlier, before a ban on hoardings. While this auction/tender will only give the ad agency a right to advertise on this stretch, they need to broker deals with individual property owners, including government agencies to put up hoardings on them. The civic body will also collect an advertisement fee from these properties, as an additional component of their property tax. This will only add to the expenses of advertisers. Outdoors' Advertising Association, Bengaluru has taken serious objection to the high advertisement fees and said this will effectively make outdoor advertising unviable, if not reduced.

How enforcement is going to work

The draft bylaws provide for stringent measures including not just removal of illegal hoardings, blacklisting such advertising agencies, booking criminal cases against them, but also levying heavy penalties on the owners of the properties on which such illegal hoardings are put up and the printers who print them. In one of the prominent features of the new draft bylaws, all outdoor advertising have to carry a QR code, which upon being scanned should display the licensee details and any hoarding that doesn't have a QR Code will be deemed unauthorised.

Even as the State government is yet to issue the final notification of the new advertising bylaws, the High Court of Karnataka has cracked the whip, pushing the civic body to act on illegal hoardings and outdoor advertising in the city.

Nudge from High Court got system cracking

Following the collapse of a giant hoarding in Mumbai in March, 2024, that left 16 killed and over 75 injured, two such hoarding collapse incidents were reported in Bengaluru as well. The very next day after the Mumbai accident, the metal structure used to put up a hoarding collapsed in Whitefield, but none was injured. However, in Rajanukunte on the outskirts of the city a 70-year-old man was injured and was treated in an Intensive Care Unit in the first week of July, when a hoarding collapsed on him. His grand-daughter had a miraculous escape.

Following this accident, on July 12, a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind took suo motu cognisance of the accident based on a newspaper report. Observing that the authorities had not cared to implement the court's orders to prevent unauthorised hoardings, the High Court of Karnataka initiated contempt proceedings against the Chief Commissioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and the City Police Commissioner. The court said the accident depicts "a sorry state of affairs despite the court passing several orders to prevent the erection of hoardings illegally", the Bench further said: "the unabated installation of illegal hoardings amounts to brazen violation of the orders passed by the court".

This nudge spurred the system into action. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath and City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda held multiple meetings and chalked out an action plan to crackdown on illegal hoardings in the city. The civic body has now dedicated a Prahari vehicle, for patrolling for each of the eight zones in the city. Civic officials will patrol their respective zones during night time to identify and remove illegal hoardings, in collaboration with the city police. Each police station in the city will appoint a nodal officer to identify, remove illegal hoardings and book FIRs against those who put them up.

Meanwhile, the civic body has begun attempts to attack the supply side for illegal hoardings and outdoor advertising. Mr. Giri Nath has also issued an order that the printers of flex, banners and hoardings have to collect permission letters from BBMP from their clients for the outdoor media they print. This, the civic body hopes will make printing illegal ads difficult in the city. The civic body has warned that erring printers who fail to comply with this order will have their trade licences cancelled.

Industry welcomes the direction of reforms

Outdoor Advertising Association, Bengaluru has welcomed the direction of the reforms and regulations to the outdoor advertising industry in the city.

CII Karnataka Annual Energy Transition Conference 2024

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

CII Karnataka organised the Annual Energy Transition Conference on Wednesday called 'Driving Sustainability: Renewables, Green Hydrogen and Electric Mobility' in Bengaluru.

According to the press release, CII Karnataka whitepaper on Energy Transition in MSMEs was released emphasizing the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources for sustainable economic growth.

Lalit Bohra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India, said , "Providing electricity at a low rate is essential as power demand grows at 8-10%. India stands 4th globally in renewable energy installations.. Achieving the 200GW milestone from renewables without fossil fuels and aiming for 500GW by 2030, along with 55GW solar manufacturing capacity, highlights our commitment to a sustainable and energy-secure future."

Centenary tribute to one of Kannada radio's most-loved voices

Ranganath was a prolific writer of plays for stage and radio, besides authoring monographs on Yakshagana, Katha Kirtan and Kannada theatre. The late academician's Ph.D. thesis on Karnataka Theatre published in 1960

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

This year marks the centenary of author, playwright, academician, voice over artiste and actor H.K. Ranganath, better known as HKR. To celebrate his work, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Kalagangotri and Navachetana Trust presented *Ranga Sanga*, on Thursday, at Ravindra Kalakshetra, J.C. Road, an evening to remember him.

Also a UNESCO consultant on using traditional media for rural development, Ranganath was a prolific writer of plays for stage and radio, besides authoring monographs on Yakshagana, Katha Kirtan and Kannada theatre. The late academician's PhD thesis on Karnataka Theatre published in 1960 by the Karnataka University is still recognised as a valuable source book.

He served as a drama producer in the All India Radio (Akashvani), zonal head and regional Director of the Southern Centre of Song and Drama Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, chairman and professor of the Department of Performing Arts, Bangalore University, emeritus professor and director of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, honorary Director at the Gandhi Centre of Science and Human Values, and as honorary producer emeritus, Akashvani and Doordarshan.

H.K. Ranganath

Fans of his voice

Apart from his immense contribution to the academic world, radio listeners were huge fans of his voice and the several programmes he presented on Akashvani. Speaking to *The Hindu*, B.K. Sumathi, senior announcer, All India Radio, says that some of the programmes recorded by Ranganath including a series programme called *Kannadada Allegalu* have had numerous repeat broadcasts and are still played on Akashvani in Karnataka. "HKR's contribution to Akashvani is immense."

"He had retired by the time I joined Akashvani, but he was frequently called to do some programmes and records for us. I had the chance to see him, work with him and voice a couple shows with him for two years" she adds.

"HKR's voice was unmatchable. We have several announcers and anchors now, but the diction he had, the way he presented programmes in Kannada, and how he made the language sound beautiful is not something the presenters of this age can do. If one needs to understand the originality, history, and the importance of the Kannada language, they must listen to the works of HKR," says Sumathi.

The senior Akashvani announcer also says that Ranganath had a huge fan following for his voice, and many uninvited people showed up at his wedding. "This was a story his wife told me. HKR had built a personal relationship with his listeners through a programme called *Bhavadhiya*, where he responded to the letters of the listeners. His response and his strong voice had won the hearts of many. He had a fan following, many people were curious to know how he looked. HKR and his wife decided to get married in a temple, and have a simple wedding, but upon knowing the news of his wedding, several fans showed up at the temple," she narrates.

Amruta Varsha

B.V. Rajaram, founder of Kalagangotri says, "We all are honoured to have had the opportunity to work with him and we want to celebrate his centenary." The event in remembrance of Ranganath ended with the presentation of the play *Amruta Varsha*, written by Ranganath himself and directed by B.V. Rajaram.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 9, 1974

No Supply of Wheat Products Against Cards

Bangalore, Aug. 8: Wheat products -- soji and maida will not be supplied to consumers in Karnataka against ration cards as was done till June last. The consumers will have to obtain their requirements of wheat products from the open market.

The issue of any wheat to roller flour mills for converting it into wheat products had been stopped. The mills will now get their needs on their own account. As for the supply of sugar in the Bangalore informal rationing area, all ration shops will have been supplied with the current month's entire quota of rotation sugar by August 15. There was some delay in the flow of sugar from the sugar mills but the movement of sugar has begun now.

Special Police Cell to Prevent Untouchability

Bangalore, Aug. 8. The Karnataka Government today sanctioned the creation of a special cell in the State CID in the office of the Inspector General of Police for stricter enforcement of the untouchability (Offences) Act and for dealing effectively with cases of harassment of Harijans.

Mr. N. Rachaiah, Minister for Social Welfare, told pressmen here to-day that the sanction had been accorded pending approval of the Government of India to the comprehensive proposals being submitted by the state for setting up a machinery in this regard under the centrally sponsored scheme in the Fifth Plan. The cell would involve an expenditure of Rs. 1.71 lakhs.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

IN SHORT

From the epic Ramayana

The temple is located on the banks of the Tungabhadra in Koppal district in north Karnataka, about 350 km from Bengaluru. Anjanadri Betta is one of the seven hillocks around the region and they are believed to be connected with the epic Ramayana. Anegundi, a small hamlet, is also called Kishkinda and this name finds a reference in Valmiki's Ramayana

Captivating sunset from the temple

Anjanadri Betta offers a stunning panoramic view of colossal granite boulders from all sides. Tourists also flock here to witness the captivating sunset. After reaching the peak and temple visit, devotees spend nearly an hour and soak in the atmosphere. Vast farms below the holy place add to the scenic splendour and serene landscape.

Crackdown on illegal quarrying

To crackdown illegal quarrying around the Anjanadri Betta temple region, a proposal has been submitted to Karnataka's Forest and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre to declare a protected forest area around Vijayanagara, Koppal, and Ballari districts.
In fact, Daroji Bear Sanctuary is also located in the region.

Foundation stone for the ropeway

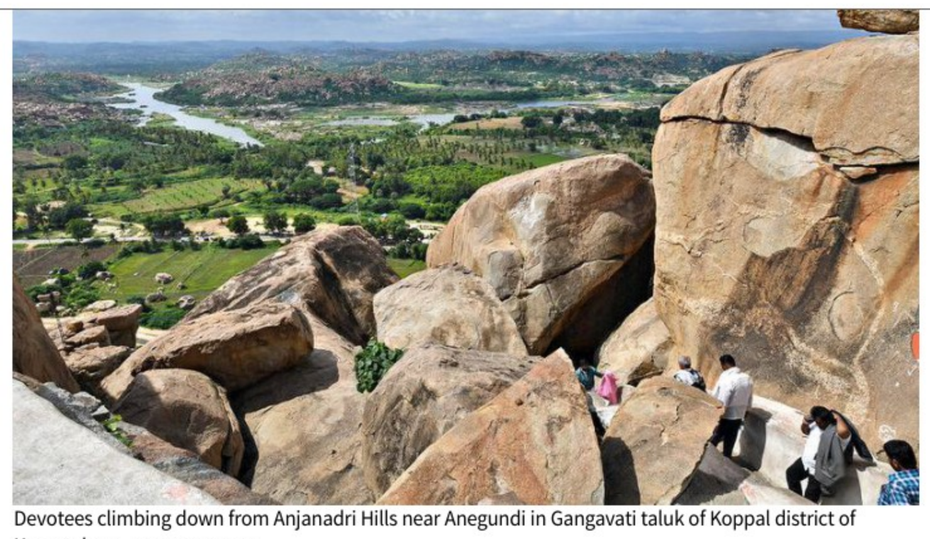
Ramalinga Reddy has approached Union Minister Nitin Gadkari for laying the foundation stone for the ropeway to the hill. To handle surging crowds another flight of steps has been proposed from another side of the hill for those coming down. Currently, devotees are moving up and down on the same flight of steps, leading to congestion.

Around 5,000 devotees every day

Locals say around 5,000 devotees visit every day and the number increases many folds during festivals and long weekends. The temple earns an income of ₹1 lakh daily and around ₹3 crore a year.
As the vehicle parking facility has been auctioned this year, it fetched income of ₹25 lakh, a year, the MLA said.

The scenic abode of Hanuman

The number of devotees thronging the Anjanadri Betta in Koppal district has been going up, but facilities at the pilgrimage centre also known for its picturesque beauty has not kept pace



Devotees climbing down from Anjanadri Hills near Anegundi in Gangavati taluk of Koppal district of Karnataka. K . BHAGYA PRAKASH

Nagesh Prabhu
HAMPI (VIJAYANAGARA)

It is 6 a.m. and Anjanadri Betta is stirring to life. Vendors open shops, invite devotees to buy fruits, flowers, and garlands to adorn the temple idol at the top of the hill. Wearing saffron robes, hundreds of barefoot devotees slowly begin climbing the narrow steps, unmindful of the cold and strong breeze.

Atop the hill, in the sanctum sanctorum, a priest performs *aarati* and chants mantras to the presiding deity Hanuman, as sandalwood incense sticks spread fragrance and oil lamps glow bright.

Serene scene

This is the early morning scene at Anjanadri Betta (hill). There is no hustle-bustle at the foot of the hill or at the top, but the flow of people is unrelenting and prayers continue all day till closing time at 8 p.m.. Devotees from different parts of India line up for *darshan* of Hanuman and his mother Anjana Devi in the same temple.

With the increased flow of pilgrims and law and order issues in 2018, *The Hindu* Religious and Charitable Endowments Department of the Karnataka government took over the administration of the temple in 2018.

Chanting "Jai Hanuman" and "Jai Shri Ram", devotees trek close to 600 steps to reach the temple site. Handrails are provided at some locations for climbing steps without much difficulty. Steps up to the temple are for most part easy and at some places shade has been provided for some respite from the sun on hot days. Aged persons would find it difficult at a couple of locations, but it is not too hard a climb for others.

Close to the hill, there is an overhanging rock, and one has to bend very low to go under it and move to the next step. There are plenty of monkeys running around on the way.

The Anjanadri Betta/temple is located on the banks of the Tungabhadra River in Koppal district in north Karnataka, about 350 km from Bengaluru. The hill is believed to be the mythical birthplace of Lord Hanuman. Anjanadri Betta is one of the seven hillocks around the region and they are believed to be connected with the epic Ramayana. At a distance of four km from the temple, Anegundi, a small hamlet, is also called Kishkinda and this name finds a reference in Valmiki's Ramayana. The name of Kishkinda is also found in inscriptions belonging to 11th century, said Dr. S.Y. Somashekar, Professor, Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, Kannada University, Hampi.

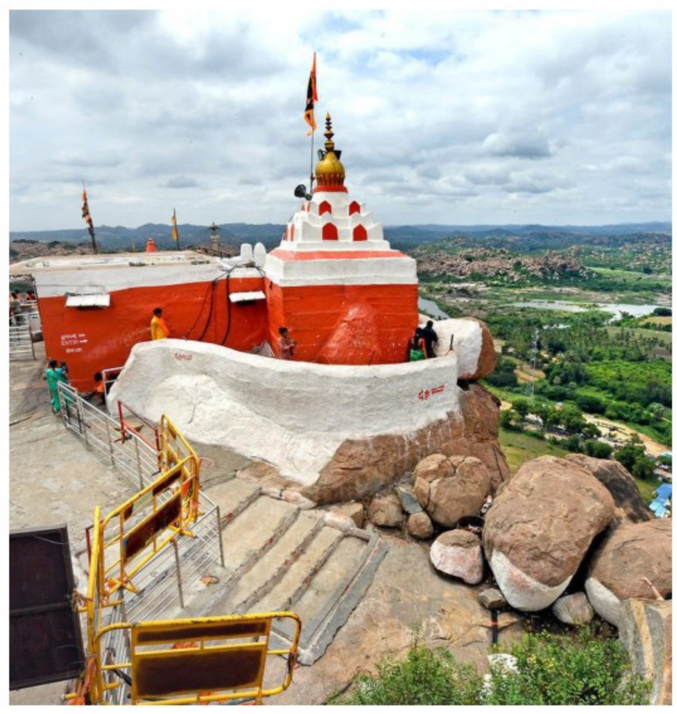
The Anjanadri Betta offers a stunning panoramic view of colossal granite boulders from all sides. Tourists also flock here to witness the captivating sunset. After reaching the peak and temple visit, devotees spend nearly an hour and soak in the atmosphere. Vast farms below the holy place add to the scenic splendour and serene landscape. The hill provides a majestic view of the Tungabhadra river formerly known as Pampa, and the 7th century Virupaksha temple of Shiva. The cool breeze atop the hill is refreshing.

No accommodation

However, despite a large number of devotees visiting the temple, there are no accommodation facilities near the holy place. Pilgrims have to travel to small towns such as Gangavati, Koppal or Hosapete for accommodation. Poor bus service is another major problem. Pilgrims have to hire vehicles from nearby towns and navigate some rugged roads.

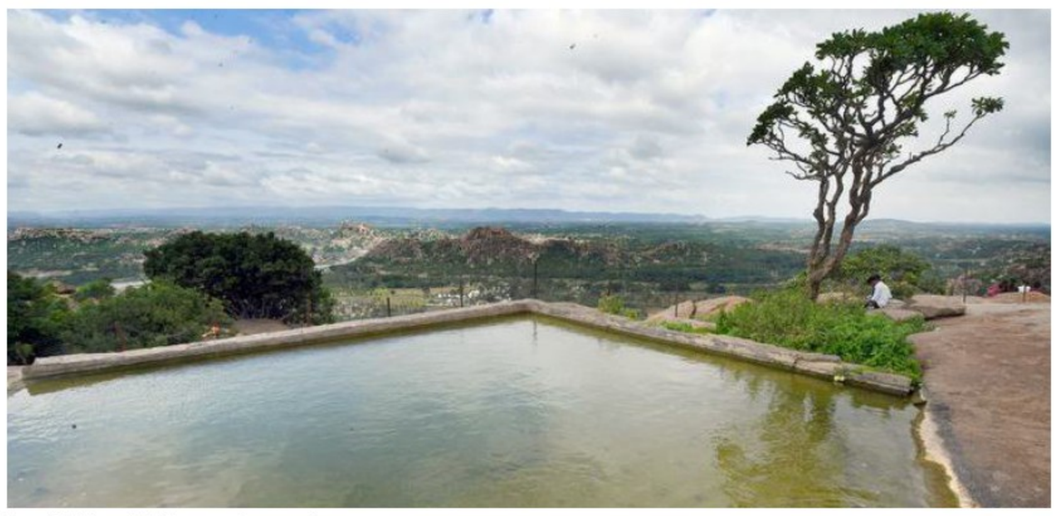
Ramalinga Reddy, Minister for Transport and Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, acknowledged the inadequate number of buses operating by KSRTC and informed that authorities have been instructed to ply more buses to Anjanadri. Reddy released ₹75 lakh for the celebration of the Hanuman Jayanti held in April, 2024.

Hanuman temple on top of Anjanadri Hills. K . BHAGYA PRAKASH



Devotees climbing Anjanadri Hills. K . BHAGYA PRAKASH

The Hanuman temple on top of Anjanadri Hills. K . BHAGYA PRAKASH



Top of Anjanadri Hills, near Anegundi. K . BHAGYA PRAKASH

Mega development plan

Former Minister and local BJP MLA G. Janardhana Reddy, former mining baron, said that a crores-worth mega development plan for construction of the Yatri Nivas, Bhojana Shalas, shopping complexes, parking area, widening roads, ropeway and other works by acquiring 70 acres around the hill was proposed. Already notification has been issued for acquiring the land at a cost of ₹28 crore. The Central and Karnataka governments would share the expenditure in the ratio of 75:25, according to Reddy.

At the end of the BJP government's tenure, former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had announced ₹100 crore for the construction of the Yatri Nivas but released only ₹21.5 crore. The present Congress government led by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has announced ₹100 crore for various works including Yatri Nivas. In the first phase, Reddy said the Yatri Nivas would provide accommodation to around 600 pilgrims. The Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board is expected to release ₹40 crore from its ₹5,000 crore budget allocation made to six districts in 2024-25, Reddy claimed.

Ropeway proposed

Reddy has approached Union Minister for Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari for laying the foundation stone for the ropeway to the hill and the ceremony is expected to be held soon. For handling surging crowds during the festival days and weekends, another flight of steps has been proposed from another side of the hill for those coming down. Currently, devotees are moving up and down on the same flight of steps, leading to congestion.

Among other facilities, a 22-km 9.5-meter wide road between Thimmalapura in Hospet Taluk and Gangavathi in Koppal district is proposed at a cost of ₹65 crore. The proposed plans include renovation of the temple by construction of a "gopura" at the entrance, construction of prayer halls, Annapoorna halls (Bhojana Shalas) and a Valmiki Vana. Locals say around 5,000 devotees visit every day and the number increases many-folds during festivals and long weekends. The temple earns an income of ₹1lakh daily and around ₹3 crore a year. As the vehicle parking facility has been auctioned this year, it fetched income of ₹25 lakh, a year, the MLA said.

To crackdown illegal quarrying around the region, a proposal has been submitted to Karnataka's Forest and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre to declare a protected forest areas around Vijayanagara, Koppal and Ballari districts. In fact, Daroji Bear Sanctuary is also located in the region.

Claims and counterc-laims

Meanwhile, there were claims and counter-claims on the mythical birth-place of the Hanuman. In 2021, Pundit Committee constituted by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) claimed that Tirumala was the birthplace of Hanuman. National Sanskrit University Vice-Chancellor V. Muralidhara Sharma, who headed the committee constituted by the TTD, cited "evidence" from Puranas and epics to buttress the claim.

This was countered by Karnataka. Sri Govindananda Saraswati Swami, founder of Sri Hanumad Janmabhoomi Theertha Kshetra Trust, Hampi, claimed that Anjaneya was born at Anjanadri Hill in Karnataka.

Sugar factories of NK to begin cane crushing from November 15

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sugar factories of North Karnataka will commence crushing of sugarcane from November 15 and a decision to this effect was taken at a meeting of the South India Sugar Mills Association (SISMA) presided by Sugar Minister Shivananda Patil on Thursday.

SISMA office-bearers expressed concern with regard to the commencement of sugarcane crushing by factories of neighbouring Maharashtra before November 15, 2024. Mr. Patil assured SISMA that he would write to the Maharashtra government requesting to issue an order to start crushing operations after November 15.

Supply of cane by State growers to Maharashtra sugar units would cause shortage of cane to factories located in Belagavi, Vijayapura, Bagalkot, and other neighbouring districts of Maharashtra. The office-bearers have urged the government to fix fair remunerative price (FRP) to the cane purchased by factories. As FRP is likely to go up each year, SISMA also urged the government to fix minimum FRP for by-products such as methanol. They urged the government to relax rules on use of jute bags for sugar packaging.

Jute packaging

SISMA argued that directions issued by the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) for mandatory jute packaging of 20% of the total production of sugar would impact the quality of the sugar.

Mr. Patil told SISMA that he would write to the Centre and try his best to address the grievances raised by mill owners.

Bidari set to become president of Karnataka unit of Veerashaiva Mahasabha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Karnataka Director-General and Inspector-General of Police Shankar Bidari is set to become the president of the Karnataka State unit of All-India Veerashaiva Mahasabha.

Mr. Bidari was the lone candidate to file nomination papers for the post.

Sources said August 11 is the last day for withdrawal of the nomination and Mr. Bidari's election would be announced on that day. He will succeed N. Thippanna, former MLC.

Sources said elections to the Veerashaiva Mahasabha would be held in September.

Locals, victims' relatives to join Wayanad search efforts

The search will begin at 6 a.m. and conclude at 11 a.m. today; 190 survivors in relief camps have registered for the search; a section of Army personnel who took part in search operations leaves

The Hindu Bureau
WAYANAD

An extensive search by involving local people and the relatives of those missing in Wayanad landslides will be conducted at Mundakkai and Chooralmala on Friday. The search will begin at 6 a.m. and conclude at 11 a.m.

Public Works Minister P.A. Mohamed Riyas and Forest Minister A.K. Saseendran said here on Thursday that 190 survivors in the relief camps had registered for the Friday's search. People's representatives, personnel of the Fire and Rescue Services, National Disaster Response Force, and Kerala Police will join the people's group in the search.

Helping hand: People of Vaniyampuzha and Iruttukuthi helping in the search for the victims of the Wayanad landslides. SAKEER HUSSAIN

The Ministers said that the search would be concluded by 11 a.m. in view of the restrictions for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the disaster zone.

The government has arranged 100-odd buildings for temporary rehabilitation of the survivors currently in relief camps.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the government would continue the search and rescue operations. The administration would leave no stone unturned to locate missing persons and retrieve bodies to give their families a sense of closure.

An emotional farewell was accorded to the Army personnel who took part in the search and rescue operations at Chooralmala as a section of them left Wayanad on Thursday.

A small contingent of Army will continue to remain at Chooralmala to ensure the maintenance of the Bailey bridge.

FIR registered after Bangalore Club gets hoax bomb threat mail

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cubbon Park police have registered an FIR against an unknown person for sending a bomb hoax mail to Bangalore Club, Lavelle Road, recently.

Based on a complaint by Col. K.K. Nair, secretary of the club, the police charged the accused with criminal intimidation by anonymous communication and public mischief for further investigation. In his complaint, Col. Nair said that he noticed the mail on his official ID from "arjundurai rajasankar" around 8.30 a.m. claiming that a bomb had been placed on the club premises which would explode by 6 p.m. The mail also mentioned many unrelated topics such as the names of Tamil Nadu's ruling party leaders.

The police, along with the bomb disposal squad, conducted a thorough check before terming the mail a hoax. The secretary of the club later approached the court and got permission from the court concerned to file a case in this regard.

The police are now trying to track down the sender based on the IP address. The police said a similar threat mail had been sent to a school in Chennai earlier stating that a student's bag was packed with RDX in March this year.

SWR resumes train services

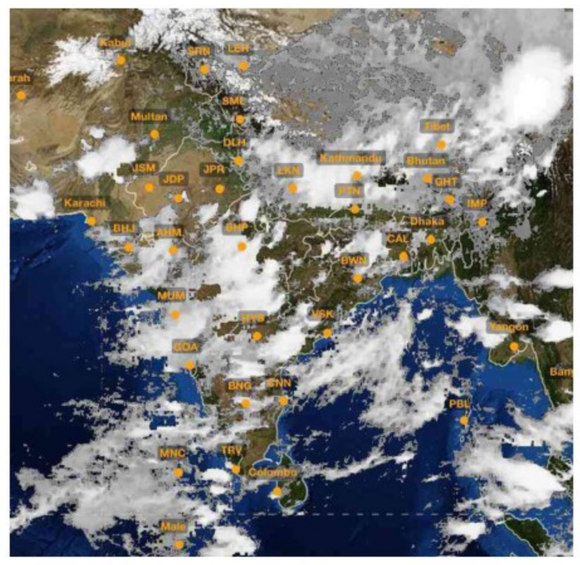
The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

South Western Railway on Thursday resumed passenger train services on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru sector, after the restoration of the landslip-affected stretch on Sakleshpur-Subrahmanya Road Ghat section.

Overnight trains from Bengaluru and Vijayapura will start from Wednesday night itself while their return serviceswill start on Friday, said a release from SWR.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra and Konkan & Goa

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	30.6	25.7	Kozhikode	11	31.4	24.1
Ahmedabad	—	31.4	26.4	Kurnool	0.3	31.8	24.6
Aizawl	3	29.7	23.0	Lucknow	3	33.0	28.2
Allahabad	3	33.5	26.6	Madurai	0.6	34.4	24.5
Bengaluru	—	27.2	20.8	Mangaluru	0.4	26.8	22.9
Bhopal	—	26.7	23.8	Mumbai	3	31.2	27.0
Bhubaneswar	—	34.2	24.8	Mysuru	—	28.7	20.0
Chandigarh	—	34.7	27.4	New Delhi	21	34.1	25.4
Chennai	—	34.6	25.5	Patna	3	34.0	26.7
Coimbatore	2	29.8	23.0	Port Blair	18.7	30.9	25.1
Dehradun	15	31.6	24.3	Puducherry	—	34.5	23.8
Gangtok	17	22.2	18.0	Pune	4.2	28.9	22.0
Goa	69	26.5	24.8	Raipur	5.8	—	24.5
Guwahati	1	34.0	26.5	Ranchi	3	30.0	24.2
Hubballi	—	27.0	23.0	Shillong	6	24.4	18.0
Hyderabad	17	30.3	22.2	Shimla	5	21.5	16.5
Imphal	11	29.3	22.5	Srinagar	—	32.4	20.2
Jaipur	2	27.0	25.2	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.9	25.2
Kochi	0.4	29.4	24.8	Tiruchi	—	36.1	25.4
Kohima	10	22.0	18.0	Vijayawada	20	30.0	24.4
Kolkata	0.5	32.2	27.2	Visakhapatnam	—	32.0	26.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.21	..38	22	 68	85	.....
Bengaluru	.11	..30	30	 34	...140	.....
Chennai	.11	6	62	... 120	...109	.....
Delhi	...6	..40	63	 52	...100	.....
Hyderabad	.16	..14	49	 34	65	.....
Kolkata	...8	..51	19	 26	40	.....
Lucknow	.10	7	17	 53	89	.....
Mumbai	.27	..25	24	 28	42	.....
Pune	..—	..31	67	 30	41	.....
Visakhapatnam	...8	..40	32	 40	88	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dhanbad, Jharkhand recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 135 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 13

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala 147001
Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact number 9646122219)

Tender Enquiry No. QW-326/PO-W **Dated 08.08.2024**

Chief Engineer / Stores & Workshops Organization, Sarabha Nagar, PSPCL, Ludhiana, invites E-tender of 93000 no. Stay Sets manufactured from M.S. Round 16mm and M.S. Channel 75x40mm (L/W) conforming to IS: 2062/1992 (with latest editions) Grade-A quality along with MS Plate 3x100x100mm and sectional details as per IS: 1732/1989 for M.S. Round and as per IS: 808/1989 for M.S. Channel with Red Oxide Primer. For detailed NIT 7 tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 08.08.2024 from 2.00 pm onwards.

NOTE:- corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C-559/24 **76155/12/3264/2023/36506**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ನಗರ
Ph: 08223-262228 Email: eepred.krn09@yahoo.com
ಸಂ:ಕಾ.ಇಂ/ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ/ಮೈ/ಸ.ಇಂ/ಟೆಂ.ರದ್ದು/2024–25

ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: **1)** ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 04/ 2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.07.2024 **2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅವಧಿ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಿದ ಪತ್ರದ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 449/ ದಿ: 31.07.2024

ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ(1)ರ ರೀತ್ಯಾ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ.ಕೋಟೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–1,2,3 ರೀತ್ಯಾ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು 25.07.2024 ರಿಂದ 03.08.2024 ಎಂದು ನಿಗಧಿಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ(2)ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅವಧಿ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಮರುಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ. ವಿಭಾಗ, . ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ನಗರ
DIPR/DDMYS-383/KSMCA-266/2024-25

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

Following **e-tenders** are published in GoK e-portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** under **"GOODS" category on 01.08.2024 & 02.08.2024** as per RTPS requirements. **Brief Details of Goods:** Procurement of **1) KPCL/2024-25/IND1109** 350 NB MS ERW Pipe for AHP-1. **EMD: Rs.84,000/-. 2) KPCL/2024-25/IND1110** Wall Blower Spares for Unit-1 to 4 Boilers. **EMD: Rs.7,000/-. 3) KPCL/2024-25/IND1111** Gland packings, Gaskets and Oil seals for BM-1. **EMD: Rs.2,100/-. 4) KPCL/2024-25/IND1112** Set of Bearings for ID, FD and PA Fans of Units 7 & 8. **EMD: Rs.20,000/-. 5) KPCL/2024-25/ IND1113** Love joy spiders, Couplings and Oil seals for BM-2. **EMD: Rs.2,500/-. 6) KPCL/2024-25/ IND1114** Ash slurry pump spares for Unit-4. **EMD: Rs.46,000/-. 7) KPCL/2024-25/ IND1115** Gland packing and Gland ropes for AHP-1. **EMD: Rs.15,000/-. 8) KPCL/2024-25/IND1116** Spares required for Ash Handling System of Unit 2 to 4. **EMD: Rs.73,600/-. 9) KPCL/2024-25/IND1117** Retainer plates and Hook rods for BM-2. **EMD:Rs.1,700/-. 10) KPCL/2024-25/IND1118** Ash slurry pump spares for Unit-3. **EMD: Rs.47,200/-. 11) KPCL/2024-25/IND1119** Sealing compound 30-45 for BM-2. **EMD: Rs.4,000/-. 12) KPCL/2024-25/IND1120** Special MS Washers for BM-2. **EMD: Rs.4,500/-. 13) KPCL/2024-25/IND1126** Ultrasonic level flow transmitters OLA. **EMD: Rs.9,750/-. 14) KPCL/2024-25/IND1127** Solenoid valve seal kit for OLA. **EMD: Rs.7,150/-. 15) KPCL/2024-25/IND1128** Seal kit. **EMD: Rs.1,100/-. 16) KPCL/2024-25/IND1142** Turning, Milling tools of central workshop and Bowl mill spares. **EMD: Rs.37,500/-. 17) KPCL/2024-25/IND1143** Welding electrodes. **EMD: Rs.2,600/-. 18) KPCL/2024-25/ IND1145** Double wheel barrow of 150 litre capacity. **EMD: Rs.5,600/-**. Last date for receipt of tenders: For Sl. No. 1 & 12: **12.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. 2, 3 & 13: **17.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl No. 4, 7, 11, 14 & 15: **16.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl No. 5 & 9: **10.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 6 & 10: **13.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 8 & 12: **12.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 16: **17.08.2024, 10.30 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 17: **19.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 18: **20.08.2024, 16.00 Hrs.** All relevant details are available in the above mentioned e-portal. Further details can be obtained from the office of the **Executive Engineer (Purchase)**, RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar-584 170, Raichur Dist. Mobile: 94495 97966. E-mail: eeprtps@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE/ LOST

I the undersigned owner of ITEM Nos. 1, 2 & 3, that are adjoining to one another, morefully described as **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** have lost the following original documents of title relating to it, and I have notified online to the Bangalore City Police Unit through my Advocate under Lost Article Report vide Lost Report No. 1183435/2024 Dated 07-08-2024. It is requested to the finder of Originals of below listed documents to deliver the same to the undersigned or to the nearest Police Station, with an intimation to the undersigned against suitable reward. Further it is also to caution the general public for not dealing with any of the Items under the Schedule Property on the basis of lost documents. Details of Lost documents are as under:

Documents relating to Item No. 1 (Site No. 550):
(i) Absolute Sale Deed Dated 20-04-1996, registered as Document No. 386/1996-97, I Addl. Book, Volume 1839, at Pages 194-196 in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, executed by BDA in my favour (Smt. MAHADEVAMMA @ GAYATHRI VEERABHADRAPPA).
(ii) Possession Certificate Dated 25-08-1964/16-09-1964 issued by BDA in the name of my father (M. MALLANNA)

Documents relating to Item No. 2 (Site No. 551):
(i) Absolute Sale Deed Dated 20-04-1996, registered as Document No. 388/1996-97, I Addl. Book, Volume 1839, pages 197-199 in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, executed by BDA in my favour.
(ii) Possession Certificate Dated 25-08-1964/16-09-1964 issued by BDA in the name of my father (M. MALLANNA)

Documents relating to Item No. 3 (Site No. 566):
(I) Absolute Sale Deed Dated 20-04-1996, registered as Document No. 390/1996-97, I Addl. Book, Volume 1841, Pages 7-9 in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, executed by BDA in my favour.
(ii) Possession Certificate Dated 25-08-1964/16-09-1964 issued by BDA in the name of my father (M. MALLANNA)

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No. 1:
All that part and parcel of land and building constructed on BDA Site No. **550,** BBMP Khatha No. 26, **PID** No. 9-3-26, in BBMP Old Ward 9, New Ward No. 66 (Subramanya Nagar Ward) situated at 2nd 'A' Main Road, 'D' Block, **Subramanya Nagar**, **Rajajinagar 2nd Stage**, Bangalore, comprising of House Building upon the Site measuring East to West 26' 6", North to South 29', totally measuring 768.5 Square Feet, which is bounded on:
East by : Site No. 567, West by : Road,
North by : Site No. 551, South by : Site No. 549.

ITEM No. 2:
All that part and parcel of land and building constructed on BDA Site No. **551,** portion of BBMP Khatha No. 13 & **PID No**. 9-4-13, in BBMP Old Ward 9, New Ward No. 66 (Subramanya Nagar) situated at 3rd 'A' Main Road, 'A' Block, **Subramanya Nagar**, **Rajajinagar 2nd Stage**, Bangalore, comprising of House Building upon the Site measuring East to West (26' 9" + 26' 6")/2, North to South 29'- totally measuring 772.125 Square Feet, which is bounded on:
East by : Site No. 566, West by : Road,
North by : Site No. 552, South by : Site No. 550.

ITEM No. 3:
All that part and parcel of land and building constructed on BDA Site No. **566,** portion of BBMP Khatha No. 13 & **PID No**. 9-4-13, in BBMP Old Ward 9, New Ward No. 66 (Subramanya Nagar) situated at 3rd 'A' Main Road, 'A' Block, **Subramanya Nagar**, **Rajajinagar 2nd Stage**, Bangalore, comprising of House Building upon the Site measuring East to West 29' 6", North to South 29' - totally measuring 855.5 Square Feet, which is bounded on:
East by : Road, West by : Site No. 551,
North by : Site No. 565, South by : Site No. 567.

Sd/-
Smt. Mahadevamma @ Gayathri Veerabhadrappa, presently known as Smt. Gayathri Mahadevamma Veerabhadrappa D/o late M. Mallanna, and W/o Mr. Veerabhadrappa A. R. No. 24, 46th 'A' Cross, Rajajinagar 3rd Block, Bangalore-560010
Phone: 99723 95221
Bangalore,
Date: 08-08-2024

TOWN PANCHAYATH YELANDUR
CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT

No:YLD/J.E./TENDER/CR/02/2024-25 Date : 07-08-2024
ನಂ.: ಯ.ಪ.ಪಂ./ತಾ.ವಿ./ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್/02/2024–25

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP portal only)

The Chief Officer, Town Panchayath Yelandur Chamarajanagar District, invites e-procurement short term tender from eligible contractors under Kw-4 document Under Work details as follows. **1) Name of work:** Construction of Residential building (G+=12 Dus) under poura Karmika Gruha Bhagya Yojana at Yelandur town Panchayath Chamarajanagar Dist under Pourakarmika Gruha Bhagya Yojane Grants (DMA/2023-24/BD/WORK_INDENT14743) **Estimate Cost: 186.00 Lakhs, EMD Amount: 2,79,000 Rupees, Period of Completion: 12 Calendar Months. Last date for uploading of completed tender documents : 26.08.2024 at 5.30 P.M,** Pre bid Meeting Venue & date: **19.08.2024 at 11.00 A.M,** (CMC Kollegal Office) **Last date of receiving tender 26.08.2024 at 5.30 P.M,** Date of opening of tenders technical bids: 31.08.2024 at 11.00 A.M & Date of opening of Financial bids: Informed after Successful technical Bid Contractors, Interested contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender. Contractors can download the tender documents from e-procurement platform **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** EMD and tender processing fees shall also be paid electronically.

Tahsildar and Administrative Officers, Town Panchayath Yelandur. **Sd/- Chief Officer** Town Panchayath, Yelandur

DIPR:CHANAGAR:167:2024-25

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.SEE/WMC/TKR/EE(O)/AEE-2/2024-25/2233-35 Date: 06.08.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka public procurement portal only)

KPTCL invites tenders for the following works on **PARTIAL TURNKEY BASIS.**

1) Bid enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)/Tkr/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/ Enq-23 dt:05.08.2024 **(Call-3)** for the work of Providing additional switchgear at 110/11KV Sub-Station **K.G.Temple.**

2) Bid enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)/Tkr/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/ Enq-24 dt:05.08.2024 **(Call-3)** for the work of Providing additional switchgear at 66/11KV Sub-Station **Dasudi**.

3) Bid enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)/Tkr/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/ Enq-25 dt:05.08.2024 **(Call-4)** for the work of Providing additional switchgear at 110/11KV Sub-Station **Sampige.**

4) Bid enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)/Tkr/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/ Enq-26 dt:05.08.2024 **(Call-4)** for the work of Providing additional switchgear at 110/11KV Sub-Station **Kadaba.**

The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the kpp portal can be obtained by logging into KPTCL **website: https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"E Procurement KPTCL"** or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **12.08.2024**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/-, Superintending Engineer El.,
Trans (W&M) Circle, "Prasarana Bhavana",
Ground Floor, Tumakuru 66/11 KV Sub-station Premises,
Kothithopu Road, Tumakuru-572103

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು(ಆಡಳಿತ) ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಶಾಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಶಿರಸಿ (ಉ.ಕ)

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2024–25 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಡೇಟಾ ಎಂಟ್ರಿ ಅಪರೇಟರ್, ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಪ್ರೋಗ್ರಾಮ್ಮರ್ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಸಹಾಯಕರಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೊರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು.ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23–08–2024ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ: ವಿವರ: (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23–08–2024 5.30 PM (2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26–08–2024 11.00 AM (3)ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಬಹುದಾದ ಸಂಭಾವ್ಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28–08–2024 11.00 AM. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 9480886953 ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ

ಸಹಿ/– ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಆಡಳಿತ) ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಶಿರಸಿ (ಉ.ಕ)

DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/230/24-25 dt. 08.08.24

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438

CORRIGENDUM

Please refer to the BESCOM advertisement on Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited invites auctions through e-auction platform from eligible Bidders for e-Auction of Scrap materials available at Rajajinagar BESCOM Stores published in this daily on 06.08.2024.

The below corrigendum may please be noted:

Sl. No.	Tender enquiry no. as per paper notification	To be read as
1	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION17	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION19
2	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION18	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION20
3	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION19	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION21
4	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION20	BESCOM/2024-25/AUCTION22

All other details remains same.

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Sd/-
General Manager, (Ele.), Procurement, BESCOM.

Karnataka Forest Departmeny
Social Forestry Division, Chitradurga.
Office of The Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Social Forestry Division, Chitradurga.
ದೂ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08194–220130, 9449863645 ಇಮೇಲ್:dcfsfcta@gmail.com
No.: A1.Tender.CR 1/2024-25 Date: 06.08.2024

e-Tender Notice
(Through e-Procurement Portal)

Tender is invited through e-procurement portal from interested Forest Contractors registered as Forest Contractors in Chitradurga Regional Forest Division for the year 2024-25 related to works of growing and maintenance of saplings and Advance Works (Pits) under Social Forestry scheme in Social Forestry Zones in the limits of Social Forestry Division, Chitradurga for the year 2024-25. For the said works dates are fixed as from 06.08.2024 to 26.08.2024 (4.00 PM). In case for the works for which there is no participation in technical and financial bids re-e-tender date is fixed as 28.08.2024 up to 16.00 hrs (4.00 PM). For further information this office can be contacted during office hours. Details can be obtained through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

RO.No.175:DIPR/CTA/ KSMCA/2024-25

Sd/- Deputy Conservator of Forests, Social Forestry Division, Chitradurga.

Up but out

Vinesh Phogat went to extraordinary lengths to win a medal

It proved to be a tale of so near and yet so far for Vinesh Phogat on a sombre Wednesday in Paris. The 29-year-old wrestler with roots in Haryana was in red-hot form and seemingly the force was with her in the women's 50kg segment. However, hours before the summit clash against Sarah Ann Hildebrandt of the United States, Vinesh's Olympic dreams of winning a gold fizzled out. In the acutely razor-sharp lines that distinguish weight categories especially in combat sport, India's ace wrestler was found to be 100 grams above the stipulated 50kg at the 7.15 a.m. mandatory weigh-in before the final bout. This was heartbreak of the extreme kind for the athlete and the funereal effect rippled through an expectant nation hoping for a gold or at least a silver. Having weighed 49.90kg on Tuesday morning, Vinesh acquired a massive halo through the day, toppling defending champion Yui Susaki of Japan and eventually getting past Cuba's Yusneylis Guzman Lopez in the semifinal. At the mixed media zone, Vinesh waved to the scribes but refrained from having a chat. The alarm bells, though, were ringing loud and clear within the Indian contingent as Vinesh and her support staff were conscious about her latest weight being 52.7kg.

The ensuing night was all about pursuing a crash course in losing extra kilos. Extreme measures such as starvation, water being ignored, frenetic exercises and induced nausea were all attempted. Even insomnia occurred and still the weighing machine did not budge on Wednesday morning. With an original body weight of around 55kg, it was extraordinary that Vinesh even attempted to compete in the 50kg bout after finding her regular 53kg category spot resting with the emerging Antim Panghal. The United World Wrestling, the sport's governing body, is clear about the rules pertaining to body weight: if an athlete fails the weigh-in, he or she will be eliminated from the competition and ranked last. In the larger scheme, Vinesh's charge towards the victor's podium, even if it culminated in despair, was seen as a metaphor for a larger battle that she and other wrestlers waged against the former Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. The allegations of sexual harassment centred around Brij Bhushan cleaved India's sporting heart; but an administrative system leaning on patriarchy, rebuffed the wrestlers before attempting a belated clean-up. Seen through that prism, the overwhelming angst over Vinesh's exit is understandable. Rules are sacrosanct, and Vinesh found herself at the wrong end and her retirement announcement has left Indian sport poorer, while she still awaits the verdict of the authorities over her appeal for a joint silver medal consideration.

Guilty on search

The antitrust case verdict against Google will have wide implications

Almost a quarter-century after an antitrust ruling against Microsoft reshaped the business landscape of tech industry, a landmark judgement by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against Google over its anti-competitive practices could now lead to a new precedent on how Big Tech firms conduct their business affairs. The roughly three-year-long legal process – which began with the discovery procedure in January 2021 after the court consolidated two lawsuits, *United States vs Google* and *Colorado vs Google*, that led to a nine-week bench trial in September 2023 – concluded on August 5. U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, Amit P. Mehta, wrote that "Google is a monopolist" and that it has violated Section 2 of the Sherman Antitrust Act by stifling competition to protect its monopoly position. The search giant was accused of using its dominant position in the online search market by cutting exclusive deals with smartphone makers such as Apple and Samsung so that they can pre-load Google search on their handsets as a default search engine.

While Google plans to appeal the ruling, the U.S. Department of Justice has not yet indicated what remedy it will ask for. Both parties have been called to discuss and find a remedy ahead of their meeting with Judge Mehta on September 6. The remedy could range anywhere from breaking up Google to eliminating exclusive agreements between the search giant and handset makers. The former will fundamentally change the structure and nature of digital businesses as Google is linked to a range of digital services. The latter, on the other hand, could immediately wipe out a revenue stream for handset makers; particularly Apple could end up losing billions of dollars if Google is ordered to terminate its exclusive deal with the iPhone maker. This hefty annual payment disincentivises firms such as Apple and Samsung from building their own rival search engines. Separately, terminating such deals can help consumers find alternative search engines as opposed to getting one pre-loaded in their smartphones. The effectiveness of these alternative search engines can only be assessed over time, as scale and the amount of data that goes into them will play a key role in optimising them for richer user experiences. Lastly, these changes could make Google build a better product that is focused on user privacy. Regardless of the directions the remedies take, this ruling will have a huge impact on a series of antitrust cases that are underway against Big Tech firms such as Meta, Amazon, and Apple for their monopolistic business practices.

A moment for just transition litigation to take wing

Kanika Jamwal

a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

In April 2024, in *M.K. Ranjitsinh and Others vs Union of India*, the Supreme Court of India recognised a human right against the adverse impacts of climate change. The decision has attracted significant discourse, riddled with mixed reactions. For some, it has been a win for climate action. For others, it has failed to protect endangered biodiversity. Taking a relatively pragmatic position, in an earlier opinion page article in this daily, "The Great Indian Bustard and climate action verdict" (April 17, 2024), this writer mapped a course for the Court to adopt in its final decision – which is, framing the core issue in the case using the concept of just transition.

Since the final decision of the Court is due soon, this article delves deeper into the advantages of a just transition framing, arguing that first, it will facilitate equitable and inclusive climate action. Second, it will break new ground by introducing 'Nature' or the non-human environment as an entity in the concept of just transition. Third, it will bolster research on just transition litigation in India by foregrounding existing cases.

Just transition is not a new concept. However, its introduction to climate change is recent. Put simply, it aims to make mitigative climate action inclusive and fair. That is, it seeks to ensure that the burdens and benefits of decarbonisation are distributed equitably.

The concept emerged in the 1970s as a tool to protect workers whose jobs were being threatened by increasing environmental regulation. Later, it was brought into the debates on climate change by the international trade union movement. In that, a direct impact of decarbonisation was on workers employed in carbon-intensive economies. In 2015, it was included in the international treaty on climate change, the Paris Agreement.

A salient report by the United States-based Sabin Center for Climate Change Law notes that in addition to workers, just transition encompasses other persons in vulnerable situations. This includes indigenous communities, women, children, and minorities. Due to their pre-existing vulnerability, they are at a higher risk of being adversely affected by decarbonisation. Accordingly, thus far, the concept only includes affected human beings. Notably, despite its vulnerability to climate change, the non-human environment has not been recognised as a subject of just transition.

Advantages of a just transition framing

The core issue in *M.K. Ranjitsinh* is the protection of an endangered bird, the Great Indian Bustard, from the adverse impacts of solar and wind energy projects. This is an opportune moment for the Court to frame the issue using just transition and further its conceptual boundaries.

> The core issue in the M.K. Ranjitsinh case – the protection of the Great Indian Bustard in energy projects – can be used to facilitate equitable and inclusive climate action

Three advantages flow from taking this approach.

First, a just transition framing will allow the Court to facilitate equitable and inclusive climate action. A repeated critique of the judgment has been its framing of the core issue – the Court's decision to juxtapose decarbonisation and biodiversity protection. Interestingly, it recognises that the two 'do not exist in disjunctive silos', and that one cannot be prioritised at the cost of the other. Yet, it proceeds to frame them as adversarial choices – pitching the conversation of the Great Indian Bustard against conservation of the 'environment as a whole' (through decarbonisation). Effectively, it presents biodiversity protection as a smaller public interest in comparison to the larger public interest of decarbonising the economy.

This type of framing echoes the judiciary's existing approach in renewable energy cases. Previously, various courts have labelled decarbonisation as being the larger public benefit, while the affected plaintiff's interest being the smaller public benefit. In such cases, a just transition framing will preclude such inequitable and exclusionary climate action. It will allow courts to strengthen decarbonisation efforts, while accounting for and protecting interests of affected communities and entities. In other words, it will facilitate responsive mitigation action, which ensures that the burdens of decarbonisation are not disproportionately distributed.

Thus, given the nature of the core issue, the present case is a wonderful opportunity for the Court to import and apply the just transition concept. This will pave the way for taking a more holistic approach – while determining the feasibility of undergrounding power transmission lines, the Court can treat protection of the Great Indian Bustard as a guiding factor. In other words, protection of the Great Indian Bustard need not to be treated as adversarial to decarbonisation. Arguably, this will set the tone for equitable and inclusive climate action.

Lastly, it must be noted that the consequence of adopting this approach may not necessarily be 'anti-energy transition' or 'anti-climate'. That is, it will not translate into decommissioning renewable energy projects. In that the question before the Court is limited to determining the feasibility of placing power transmission lines underground.

A just transition framing will enable the responsible and informed operation of renewable energy projects, and not decommission them. Thus, instead of being anti-climate, this case will belong to the new category of climate litigation emerging globally, i.e., litigation which is pro-just climate action.

A second advantage is that this case provides an opportunity for the Court to expand the concept of just transition by introducing the non-human environment as an affected entity. As mentioned earlier, theoretically, Nature does not feature as a subject in the concept, just transition. By and large, the notion of 'affected communities' is limited to human beings. Globally, existing just transition litigation only seeks to protect the interests of human beings.

This case presents an opportunity for the Court to develop jurisprudence on just transition and expand its scope. By applying the concept to protect an endangered bird, the non-human environment can be introduced as a separate entity in just transition. In doing so, the Court may draw on its own decadal eco-centric jurisprudence on the rights of nature; most recently in 2023, it suggested the recognition of the rights of sentient animals by the legislature. This is in addition to the copious jurisprudence from subordinate courts where constitutional rights of entire ecosystems have been recognised.

A final advantage of using the concept is that it will foreground existing just transition litigation in the country. A general consensus among climate law scholars is that just transition remains an understudied and under-researched area, both in climate law and litigation. This does not mean that just transition litigation does not exist. Rather, it has been overseen. Increasingly, climate law research is focusing on mapping just transition litigation in different regions of the world.

Given the significant number of renewable energy cases in India, a mapping exercise of just transition litigation is overdue. If the concept is introduced in the present case, it could act as a catalyst for this much-needed research. In fact, a few of these cases have already been identified as climate litigation, however, not as just transition litigation specifically. For example, they do not appear in the list of just transition cases available at the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law's Global Climate Litigation Database. Thus, if the Court uses this concept, it could facilitate relevant research geared towards filling the gap in our collective knowledge about just transition litigation.

A beacon for the future

With an increasing number of countries attempting to move towards net-zero, just transition litigation is bound to rise. As of today, Land Conflict Watch has reported 20 ongoing disputes with respect to renewable energy projects in India. Equitable sharing of burdens and benefits arising from decarbonisation is central to most of these disputes. Thus, this is a watershed moment for introducing the concept of just transition in India. Should the Court choose to do so now, it will pave the way for equitable climate action, whether taken through law or litigation.

Change in Bangladesh, the challenges for India

T.S. Tirumurti

was India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York and, earlier, Head of Division for Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and the Maldives

With events in Bangladesh unfolding at a rapid pace, this writer recalls the events of February 2009 when (now former) Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina faced a major crisis within two months of her taking over. The mutiny of the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), a paramilitary force, where the rebels took over the BDR's headquarters in Dhaka, left 74 dead, out of whom 57 were army officers.

The unrest spread to 12 other towns and cities and posed a direct threat to the fledgling democratically elected government of Sheikh Hasina.

Indian Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon was called back from Colombo by the then External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee, where this writer was also present, being the Head of Division for Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and the Maldives. We took the only available flight, late at night, to Mumbai and then to Delhi to reach early the next morning. Within two hours, the Foreign Secretary began meeting Ambassadors of important countries to convey India's concern about the unfolding crisis and seeking their understanding in case the situation got worse.

The mutiny failed. It was bound to fail since Ms. Hasina had just come to power riding on "clean" elections with huge backing from women and youth, and without the army's interference. But in the 15 years of her tenure, all this seems to have been squandered.

A growing disconnect

The recent elections in 2024 were least inclusive with the Opposition's boycott, dwindling democratic space, an erosion of human rights, a severe economic downturn and, even more significantly, high levels of unemployment among the youth – a segment of support which had earlier benefited from the sustained economic growth under Ms. Hasina. And when the students' protests broke out, led by the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, the fact that it was handled in a ham-handed manner – almost as if they were the enemies of the state, and which saw the use of violence – sealed Ms. Hasina's fate.

> New Delhi can capitalise on its strong development partnership with Dhaka and work closely with the interim government, the army, and the people

Factoring in public opinion, challenges

However, Bangladesh Army chief, General Waker-uz-Zaman, has stepped into a situation that is quite different from what existed when Gen. Moeen U. Ahmed took over in 2007 in a coup. In 2007, one needed the army to bring the anarchy and the violence that was unleashed by both the major political parties under control, restore governance and facilitate elections. The situation demanded a strong man at the top. In 2024, the army is seen more as facilitating the will of the people by driving out a beleaguered Prime Minister and restoring the democratic process. This has also made the army more vulnerable and, therefore, more responsive to public opinion.

A sign of this vulnerability is the acceptance of the students' choice of Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus as the head of the interim government. Normally, coup leaders nominate lacklustre technocrats to run the country under their tight supervision, and not accept a popular leader who commands widespread respect, internally and externally. But then, the army's vulnerability may well be the silver lining which Bangladesh is looking for. Mr. Yunus is seen as a passionate supporter of democratic values and the rule of law. He is a known Hasina-baiter, on account of how she treated him. While he did nurse political ambitions and wanted to start his own political party, he is not seen to be close to the two main parties, the Awami League and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party. Could this be the springboard he needs to launch a third force in Bangladesh?

However, selecting the interim government is not the only task right now. There is an equally serious issue – of the students' agitation being hijacked by those suppressed under the earlier regime or who had boycotted the elections or supported from outside the country. They include not only the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and the opposition but also the banned Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami which had unleashed Islamic jihadist violence in 2006-07. Violence against Awami League sympathisers and their properties continue, symbols of Bangladesh liberation including the statues of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman are being demolished, and the Hindu minority community is under attack. Accommodating such polarised forces in the interim government will weaken both Mr. Yunus and the army and, inevitably, give a fillip to anti-India forces. Will a weak army leadership be able to control these forces?

While India was the first country to flag "contemporary forms of religiophobia against non-Abrahamic religions" in the United Nations Security Council in 2021 and in the UN General Assembly in 2022, it has demurred, raising this more forcefully with its neighbours and the West, apart from the usual expression of concern. Recent events in Bangladesh have shown, yet again, that if India does not, nobody will.

Mirroring Myanmar and the Maldives

The situation in Bangladesh is akin to events unfolding in Myanmar rather than Sri Lanka. After three consecutive elections in Myanmar, the coup leaders are finding it difficult to retain control over the people and ethnic groups and may well collapse sooner rather than later. After four consecutive elections in Bangladesh, where peoples' democratic aspirations have been raised, the military will find its role considerably circumscribed.

For India, the situation seems similar to what happened in the Maldives where it, *inter alia*, propped up President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih without building bridges to the other side and facing a backlash when the opposition came to power.

What is in its favour though, whether in the Maldives or Afghanistan or Sri Lanka, or now in Bangladesh, is the strong development partnership and projects it has built for the benefit of their peoples. India's best bet is to work closely with Mr. Yunus and the army, and with the people.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In Paris

India's hockey legacy has been kept alive by the Indian team. The revival of the game is because of the support it has received from personalities such as the former Odisha Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik. One hopes that there is more support across the country to nurture talent.

Dr. V. Purushothaman,
Chennai

Despite a year full of challenges, Vinesh Phogat fought relentlessly towards achieving her goal. Though disqualified from the Olympics, she has proved that with a clear vision, one can overcome hurdles.

Sanjit Pal Singh,
Nawabganj, West Bengal

The loss of a medal is heartbreaking. But for Vinesh Phogat, the fact is that she has ignited a spark in many Indian girls. Whatever the Olympics rules say, one cannot ignore her incredible performance throughout.

Ritika Mehto,
New Delhi

It was heart-wrenching to read the reports on the Sports page. But perseverance and dedication are what made Ms. Phogat shine like gold.

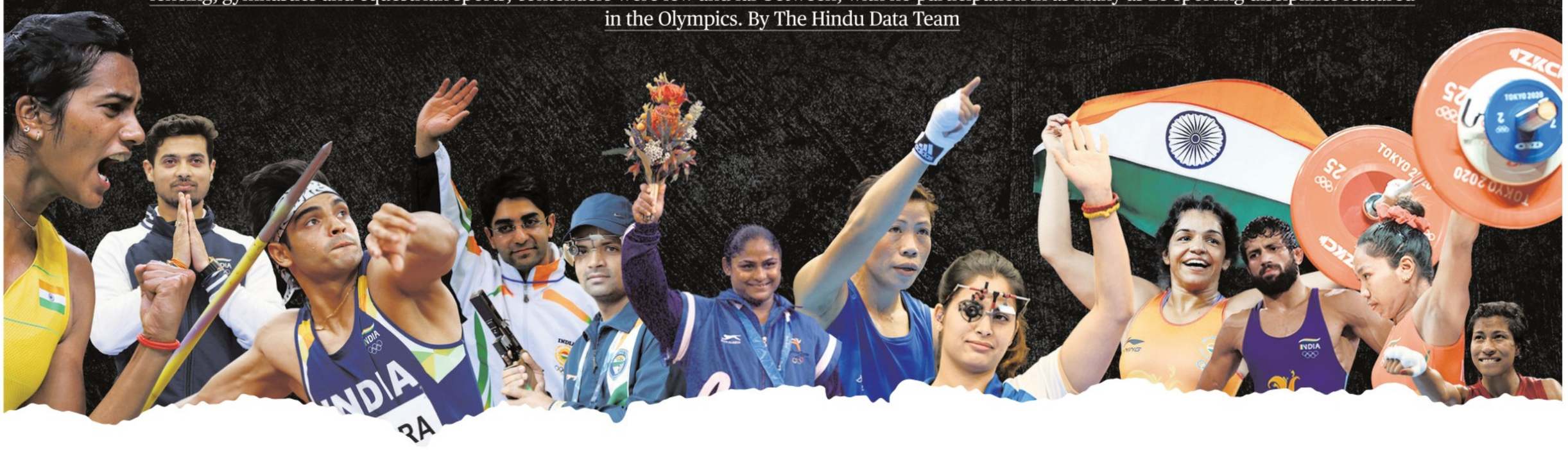
Jayasivakumar S.P.,
Chennai

The path to reach the wrestling finals in the Olympics was not a bed of roses for Ms. Phogat. Unmindful of all the ignominy she faced at the hands of our rulers, her reaching the finals in the Olympics itself is a fitting reply to the manner in which she has been treated.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

A widening Olympic quest

In the last seven Olympics, including 2024, India's participation has been consistent in archery, badminton, hockey and shooting. In wrestling, athletics and boxing, contenders have qualified in only some categories but there is a long way to go for participation in others. In judo, sailing, rowing, fencing, gymnastics and equestrian sports, contenders were few and far between, with no participation in as many as 20 sporting disciplines featured in the Olympics. By The Hindu Data Team



THE TABLES LIST THE NUMBER OF INDIAN CONTENDERS IN EACH EVENT ACROSS EDITIONS. BLANKS CORRESPOND TO LACK OF PARTICIPANTS. DATA WERE SOURCED FROM OLYMPICS.COM

Archery

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men's individual (I)		3	1	3	1	3	3
Men's team		3		3		3	3
Mixed team						2	2
Women's (I)		3	3	3	3	1	3
Women's team		3	3	3	3		3

Archery has seen consistent participation over the years, culminating in contestation in all events (with 2 or more players) in Paris 2024

Badminton

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men's singles	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Men's doubles					2	2	2
Mixed doubles				2			
Women's singles	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Women's doubles				2	2		2

In badminton, singles events have witnessed regular qualification, while contenders in the the doubles events have picked up only in recent editions

Hockey

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men	16	16		18	18	18	19
Women					17	16	

While the men's team managed to qualify to all editions, except 2008, the women's team competed in only two of the last seven editions

Shooting

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men cat. 1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
Men cat. 2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
Men cat. 3		1	2	1	2	2	2
Men cat. 4			2	1	2	2	2
Men cat. 5			1	2	2		1
Men cat. 6			1	2	2		1
Men cat. 7			1	2	1		
Men cat. 8					1		
Men cat. **9-10**							
Mixed cat. 1						2	4
Mixed cat. 2						2	4
Mixed cat. 3							2
Women cat. 1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Women cat. 2		2	2	2	1	2	2
Women cat. 3				1	1	2	2
Women cat. 4						2	2
Women cat. 5							2
Women cat. 6							2
Women cat. **7**							

In the table, the categories which did not record any contender from India are clubbed together (cat. = categories in the tables)

In shooting, Indians have consistently qualified for most events across editions. The number of events in which Indians participated has also increased over the editions. This is especially so among women and in mixed events where participation has surged in recent years

Some categories, across all sports, which were available in the earlier editions, may have got dropped in the subsequent years

Wrestling

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men cat. 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Men cat. 2		1	1	1	1	1	
Men cat. 3		1	1	1	1	1	
Men cat. 4		1		1	1		
Men cat. 5		1					
Men cat. 6		1					
Men cat. 7		1					
Men cat. **8-16**							
Women cat. 1				1	1	1	1
Women cat. 2					1	1	1
Women cat. 3					1	1	1
Women cat. 4						1	1
Women cat. 5							1
Women cat. 6-8							

In the table, the categories which did not record any contender from India are clubbed together (cat. = categories in the tables)

While increasingly more women have qualified for wrestling events, the number of male contenders have declined. Moreover, there is still scope for improvement as many events have not recorded any participation at all

Men have not participated in at least eight events each year. The number of missed events is relatively lower among women

Athletics

In athletics, some events such as women's discus throw and men's shot put have recorded consistent participation with a few misses across editions

Many events such as men's 100m, men's 110m hurdles, men's 1500m, men's 200m races have not recorded any participation in the last seven Olympics including the 2024 edition

Events such as men's hammer throw, men's pole vault, men's decathalon, have also not seen any participants

Among women, 4X400m relay has recorded consistent participation in most editions. In other sports, the number of contenders have been few and far between. Participation in heptathlon has also dwindled over the years

Among women, participants have not qualified for pole vault, hammer throw and the 1500m ever race

In the tables (R) corresponds to Relay

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men's 10000m			1				
Men's 100m							
Men's 110m hurdles							
Men's 1500m							
Men's 200m							
Men's 20km race walk				3	3	3	3
Men's 3000m steeplechase						1	1
Men's 4 x 100m (R)	4						
Men's 4 x 400m (R)	4				6	5	5
Men's 400m	1	1			1		
Men's 400m hurdles						1	
Men's 5000m							
Men's 50km race walk				1	1	1	
Men's 800m					1		
Men's decathlon							
Men's discus throw		2	1	1	1		
Men's hammer throw							
Men's high jump							1
Men's javelin throw	1					2	2
Men's long jump	1				1	1	1
Men's Marathon				1	3		
Men's pole vault							
Men's shot put	2	1		1		1	1
Men's triple jump			1	1	1		2
4 x 400m (R) mixed						4	
Marathon race walk (R) mixed							2
Women's 10000m			1				
Women's 100m					1	1	
Women's 100m hurdles							1
Women's 1500m							
Women's 200m		1			1	1	
Women's 20km race walk					2	2	1
Women's 3000m steeplechase				1	2		1
Women's 4 x 100m (R)	4						
Women's 4 x 400m (R)	4	5	5		7		4
Women's 400m	1		1		1		1
Women's 400m hurdles							1
Women's 5000m							2
Women's 800m				1	1		
Women's discus throw	1	3	2	2	1	2	
Women's hammer throw							
Women's heptathlon	2	2	3				
Women's high jump		1		1			
Women's javelin throw	1					1	1
Women's long jump		1	1				
Women's marathon					2		
Women's pole vault							
Women's shot put					1		
Women's triple jump				1			

Boxing

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men cat. 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Men cat. 2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Men cat. 3	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Men cat. 4	1	1	1	1		1	
Men cat. 5			1	1		1	
Men cat. 6				1			
Men cat. 7				1			
Men cat. **8-12**							
Women cat. 1				1		1	1
Women cat. 2						1	1
Women cat. 3						1	1
Women cat. 4						1	1
Women cat. **5-6**							

In boxing, similar to shooting, Indians have consistently qualified for most events across editions. However, the number of contenders among men have declined in the recent years. In contrast, the number of participants among women has surged in the last two editions

Table Tennis

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men's singles	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Men's team							3
Mixed doubles						2	
Women's singles	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Women's team							3

In table tennis, there has been consistent participation over the years in singles events, which that for doubles events has picked up in the latest edition

Tennis

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men's singles	1			2		1	1
Men's doubles	2	2	2	4	2		2
Mixed doubles				2	2		
Women's singles			1				
Women's doubles	2		2	2	2	2	

While participation in men's doubles has remained consistent, the 2024 edition did not see any entry in women's doubles, after Sania Mirza's exit. It is a different story in singles events

Swimming

Event	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Men cat. 1	1		1	1	1	1	1
Men cat. 2			1			1	
Men cat. 3			1			1	
Men cat. 4			1				
Men cat. 5			1				
Men cat. 6			1				
Men cat. 7			1				
Men Cat. 8-17							
Women cat. 1	1	1			1	1	1
Women cat. 2		1					
Women Cat. 3-17							

The 2008 edition saw Indians participating in the most number of events. Since then the record has remained poor. In most of the editions men have qualified for only one to three events among 16 to 17 events. Participation among women has also been similarly poor

DESIGNED BY SANKAR GANESH T

DATA COMPILED BY VIGNESH RADHAKRISHNAN, SAMBAVI PARTHASARATHY, JASMIN NIHALANI AND NITIKA FRANCIS, SRINIVASAN RAMANI AND R. AMANDA MIRIAM FERNANDEZ, MOHAMMED AMJADH SHAH M., MOHAMED ANAS Z., THALAMUTHUKUMAR T. WHO ARE INTERNING WITH THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EVENTS WITH FEWER PARTICIPANTS, AND NEWER SPORTS

Weightlifting

Despite Karnam Malleswari winning a bronze in 2000 and Saikhom Mirabai Chanu winning a silver in 2020, the number of contenders in this sport has remained minimal, especially among men

Equestrian

In this sport, in the last seven Olympic editions, including 2024, only two have qualified from India, one each in Dressage and Eventing

Golf

Golf, which was recently re-introduced in the 2016 Olympics, has seen consistent participation from Indian men and women

Fencing

In the last seven editions, only one Indian has qualifed in this sport: C.A. Bhavani Devi from Tamil Nadu who participated in the 2020 edition

Judo

More women compared to men have qualified to take part in recent editions, even as overall participation has remained poor

Rowing

Men from India qualifed for at least one event in recent editions. However, the sport has seven to eight events in each edition

Sailing

Similar to rowing, men from India qualifed for at least one event in the last two editions. One woman each have also qualified in the last two editions

Gymnastics

Despite the inspiring performances by Dipa Karmakar in 2016 and Pranati Nayak in 2020, the 2024 edition did not feature any entry from India

Sports which did not record any participation in the last seven editions

- Many sports in the summer Olympics in the last seven editions have not recorded a single participant from India. Here is a list of such sports.
- The list includes sports which had featured in at least one of the last seven Olympic editions including the 2024 Paris Olympics

Water Polo · Basketball · Taekwondo · Canoe Sprint · Beach Volleyball · Cycling · Triathlon · Trampoline Gymnastics · Marathon Swimming · Handball

Modern Pentathlon · Surfing · Volleyball · Skateboarding · Rugby Sevens · Breaking · Diving · Sport Climbing · Karate · Football

M BG-BGE

From Page One

Yunus-led Bangladesh interim govt. sworn in

Sources said a committee will be formed to assess the damage to these two important installations, and renovation will begin soon afterwards.

Earlier on Thursday, after landing in Dhaka from a trip to France, Mr. Yunus gave an emotional speech, recalling the sacrifices made by students who were met with a heavy-handed response from the Hasina-led government.

In his speech, he addressed the people of Bangladesh as "one big family" and said the young protesters had given them a "new birth". However, he condemned the recent violence directed against the country's religious minorities.

"My first word to you is to protect the country from disorder. Protect it from violence so we can follow the path our students have shown us," he said.

Restoring stability and stopping anarchy have become immediate priorities as attacks, looting and destructive activities persisted on Thursday in many part of the country, in the absence of government and enforcement agencies.

However, the Bangladesh Army, alongside other law enforcement agencies, said they would take strict action to stop the ongoing attacks across the country.

Meanwhile, during a regular briefing in Washington on Wednesday, Matthew Miller, the U.S. State Department Spokesperson, said the U.S. believes the interim government should respect democratic principles, the rule of law, and the will of the Bangladeshi people. Mr. Miller also mentioned that they think the interim government will play a vital role in establishing long-term peace and political stability in Bangladesh.

Former West Bengal CM Buddhadeb passes away

"I have known him for the last several decades and visited him a few times when he was ill and confined to home in the last few years. My very sincere condolences to Meeradi and Suchetan in this hour of grief," Ms. Banerjee said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also expressed his condolences on the demise of the communist leader and added that he was a political stalwart who served the State with commitment.

Governor C.V. Ananda Bose visited the former Chief Minister's residence and described him as a "gentlemen politician who won the love and respect of people from all walks of life with his simple life, high thinking and affinity to literature and culture".

CPI(M) leader and Mr. Bhattacharjee's longtime aide Biman Bose said that he had worked for the party and people for a long time. Party general secretary Sitaram Yechury said that Mr. Bhattacharjee's dedication to the party and ability to look ahead will always function as a lodestar.

Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee was born in 1944 in north Kolkata and graduated in Bengali (Hons) from the city's reputed Presidency College (now Presidency University). He was associated with the communist movement at a young age. His reign as Chief Minister was marked by a push for industrialisation as well as violent protests against forcible land acquisition.

A quintessential *Bhadralok*, Mr. Bhattacharjee was always dressed in a white dhoti and kurta and had a keen interest in literature and cinema. In 2022, when the NDA government announced the Padma Bhushan award to him, he refused it.

Mr. Bhattacharjee had been confined to his small apartment on Palm Avenue due to his deteriorating health and fading eyesight since 2016. He stepped down from the party's Central Committee and Polit Bureau in 2018 and from the CPI(M) State committee in March of that year owing to his health issues.

Along with failing eyesight, Mr. Bhattacharjee was suffering from COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and had been hospitalised on several occasions.

RBI holds repo rate at 6.5% for ninth time

The standing deposit facility rate remains at 6.25%, while the marginal standing facility rate and the bank rate stand at 6.75%.

The MPC also decided by a 4-2 majority to remain focused on the withdrawal of accommodation to ensure that inflation progressively aligns to the target, while supporting growth.

Explaining the rationale behind these decisions, Mr. Das said that headline inflation, after remaining steady at 4.8% during April and May, had increased to 5.1% in June, primarily driven by food inflation, which remains stubborn.

"Core inflation (CPI excluding food and fuel) moderated, while the fuel group remained in deflation. The expected moderation in headline inflation during the second quarter of 2024-25 on account of favourable base effects is likely to reverse in the third quarter," he said.

Taming inflation, supporting growth

Hence, the MPC has reiterated the need to continue with the disinflationary stance of withdrawal of accommodation, to ensure that inflation progressively aligns to the target, while supporting growth, he said.

Taking various factors into consideration, real GDP growth for 2024-25 has been projected at 7.2%, with the first quarter (Q1) projection at 7.1%; Q2 at 7.2%; Q3 at 7.3%; and Q4 at 7.2%.

PM urges Yunus to ensure protection of minorities

Modi conveys message after Nobel laureate takes oath as head of Bangladesh govt.; Indian visa services suspended in Dhaka; MEA declines comment on duration of Ms. Hasina's stay in India

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

> India has taken note of steps by various groups in Bangladesh for protection of minorities in Bangladesh but remains deeply concerned...
>
> **RANDHIR JAISWAL**
> MEA spokesperson

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged Muhammad Yunus, who took charge as head of Bangladesh's interim government on Thursday, to ensure the "safety and protection of Hindus and all other minority communities" in the country.

Mr. Modi's message, conveying his good wishes, was sent soon after Dr. Yunus took his oath of office in Dhaka, which has faced a governance vacuum since Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fled the country in a dramatic turn of events.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is in touch with the post-Hasina administration to ensure safety for the remaining officials in Indian missions as well as Indian citizens who are scattered across Bangladesh, a Ministry spokesperson said on Thursday.

"My best wishes to Professsor Muhammad Yunus on the assumption of his new responsibilities. We hope for an early return to normalcy, ensuring the safety and protection of Hindus and all other minority communities. India remains committed to working with Bangladesh to fulfil the shared aspirations of both our peoples for peace, security and development," the Prime Minister said, in his message to Dr. Yunus.

Expressing cautious optimism about the newly appointed government, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that the wishes of the people of Bangladesh were paramount. Taking note of attacks against minority communities, Mr. Jaiswal reminded Dhaka that it is the task of "every government" to protect all its citizens.

"India has taken note of the steps by various groups in Bangladesh for protection of minorities in Bangladesh but remains deeply concerned about the situation. Every government is responsible for the well being of its citizens," Mr. Jaiswal.

Evacuating Indians

Concerns about attacks against workers of the Awami League, led by the deposed Bangladeshi PM, as well as against various minority communities were raised at the MEA's media interaction, which also dealt with the lack of security for the Indian High Commission and the Assistant High Commissions that are now left with a skeleton staff after all 'non-essential staff' were evacuated by a commercial flight on Wednesday.

The High Commission of India in Dhaka has been operating emergency helpline services to evacuate Indian nationals who want to leave in view of the unstable situation, including some Indians working on various projects. Sources said that it was necessary to evacuate some Indian personnel across the land border as "some of these situations were life threatening". Some of those evacuated were working with IRCON Khulna, L&T, RITES, Tata Projects, Afcons, and Transrail Sirajganj.

Mr. Jaiswal also confirmed that the High Commission's visa services have been suspended in view of the prevailing situation, and expressed the hope that the newly appointed government would act soon to contain the law-and-order situation in Bangladesh.

Hasina's asylum plans

The evacuation of Ms. Hasina, who was flown from Dhaka to the Hindon airbase near Delhi three days ago, is expected to become an issue with the new government. Ms. Hasina had lodged several cases against Dr. Yunus that were ultimately quashed.

Mr. Jaiswal declined to comment about how many days Ms. Hasina would spend in the country, maintaining that "it is for her to take things forward".

Instability in India's neighbourhood is a concern, says CDS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

General Anil Chauhan

As the situation in Bangladesh remains tense, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan on Thursday said the "instability in our neighbourhood" is a cause of concern, and flagged the threat on the western and northern borders.

"The world is in the most violent phase of its existence since World War II," he said at the Ammunition India conference organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

"India has its own share of security challenges, we have a proxy war waged by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir, whose sudden escalation we are now seeing south of Pir Panjal. The prolonged border dispute with China is yet to abate. These are two major security challenges that we face. The instability in our neighbourhood is another cause of concern for us," Gen. Chauhan said.

He said a large nation such as India, with an abundance of security problems, could not remain dependent on foreign imports for fighting wars or sustenance, especially given that global security and governance were in a state of flux and India had "live borders" with unresolved disputes.

India's quest for indigenisation is central to maintaining this strategic autonomy, he said, noting that the whole concept of *atmanirbharta* [self-sufficiency] goes beyond defence manufacturing. "If we have to translate *atmanirbharta* only in defence or ammunition manufacturing, it is complete sovereignty over the product cycle," he elaborated.

Gen. Chauhan said the vagaries of VUCA – volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity – world are impacting global defence supply chains, especially for ammunition. The global arms industry was grappling with this widening gap between demand and supply, and the reliance on imports to bridge this gap is becoming a necessity for most nations, highlighting the global interdependence in defence supplies.

BJP leaders, party CMs in Northeast differ on letting in violence-hit Bangladeshi minorities

Nistula Hebbar
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Border Security Force is denying entry to all undocumented immigrants, irrespective of religion. DEBASISH BHADURI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is in a fix over repeated demands within the party to protect members of the Hindu community facing violence in Bangladesh. The Border Security Force (BSF), however, is denying entry to all undocumented immigrants, irrespective of religion; more problematically for the party, its own leaders in northeastern India do not want a major influx of Bangladeshi immigrants into their States.

Ever since the Sheikh Hasina government fell in Dhaka, and reports of violence – including against minority Hindus – have surfaced, leaders of the BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) have appealed to the Union government to ensure protection for the embattled community.

Help for refugees

West Bengal BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari met with Union Home Minister Amit Shah over the issue recently, arguing that the instability in Bangladesh could result in "crores" of people trying to cross into India, especially into West Bengal. He is also reported to have told Mr. Shah that the situation underscored the necessity of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) that grants Indian citizenship to applicants who are minorities from neighbouring countries seeking to escape persecution, although under the law, such applicants should have entered the country by 2014.

Former Rajya Sabha member Swapan Dasgupta extended this concern to "Bangladeshi notables who are friendly to India," after the BSF denied them entry into the country because they had no valid visas. "They were, in effect thrown to the wolves," he posted on X, appealing to Mr. Shah to "go beyond niceties and be more understanding towards our traditional friends in Bangladesh".

'Fully secured borders'

These sentiments were not, however, echoed by the BJP's own Chief Ministers in northeastern States that border Bangladesh. Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Thursday that after this week's events in Bangladesh, the border between his State and the neighbouring country has been "fully secured" and that "no one has yet entered our borders".

Manik Saha, CM of Tripura – a State that had witnessed a massive influx of Bangladeshi refugees in 1971, during the war that preceded the formation of that country – also said that the border would be kept secure, and batted for strict measures.

BSF officials said that multiple attempts have been made by groups of Bangladeshis to enter India over the past four days. The BSF is sending such people back with the help of Border Guards Bangladesh.

'No entry sans visa'

"We are stopping Bangladeshis, irrespective of religion. If a person is without any documents, we have instructions from the Ministry of Home Affairs to not allow them to enter India. State police is also helping us keep a vigil all along the Bangladesh border," a top BSF official said. on condition of anonymity.

Parties urge EC to hold J&K polls by SC deadline

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

All the major national and regional parties, including the BJP, on Thursday were unanimous and forceful in their appeal to the visiting team of the Election Commission of India (EC), headed by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar, to hold early Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir, which is under Central rule since 2018.

The SC, in its judgment on provisions of Article 370 in December last year, had passed directions on holding elections in J&K by September 30, 2024. The last Assembly election in J&K was held back in 2014.

Meanwhile, the CEC, accompanied by ECs Gyanesh Kumar and S.S. Sandhu, met top officials from civil and security departments "for their inputs".

Govt. amends CAA guidelines on documents to prove foreign origin

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Applicants with their citizenship certificates handed over under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), in New Delhi. ANI

The Union Home Ministry has amended a provision of the Rules of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA) that required applicants seeking citizenship to submit a document by any government authority in Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan establishing their roots in these countries. The CAA requires applicants to declare that they are foreigners.

The requirement under Schedule 1A, or the list of nine documents issued by any government authority in the three countries to prove that the applicant, or ancestors, is/are a national of Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan, has been expanded to include any document issued by the State or the Union government or any quasi-judicial authority in India. An "etc." (et cetera) has been added in the order which would give discretion to government officials while processing CAA applications if there are any shortcomings in the documents.

The CAA Rules also enable local priests or a "locally reputed community institution" to issue the mandatory certificates certifying the faith of an applicant. CAA facilitates citizenship to six non-Muslim communities from the three countries who entered India before December 31, 2014. Union government officials belonging to the Directorate of Census, Postal Department, Railways, National Informatics Centre and Intelligence Bureau have been informed by the Ministry that "CAA is a facilitative law and its spirit has to be understood while processing the applic- ations".

Schedule 1A has not been a problem for Hindu migrants from Pakistan as most entered India on valid documents such as passports and visas. In December 2019, the Citizenship Act, 1955 was amended to facilitate citizenship through registration and naturalisation to undocumented migrants belonging to six non-Muslim communities.

Rahul claims passes for his visitors not issued

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said visitors to his Parliament office were not issued passes and he had to come to meet them at the Parliament reception.

In the afternoon, he had met a delegation of Right to Food campaign, including Jean Dreze, and another delegation of fishermen, who had been affected by the action taken by the Sri Lankan Navy.

"Once again, delegations scheduled to meet with me were stopped from entering the Parliament," Mr. Gandhi said.

APPEAL

Baby Kaveri S S daughter of Shankar 1 year 6 months admitted in Mazumdar Shaw Medical Centre is diagnosed with Interdigitating Dendritic Sarcoma. She will require treatment with Chemotherapy followed by surgery. If the child requires radiation therapy and bone marrow transplant. The approximate cost estimation of therapy and transplant is **Rs. 34,00,000/-**.

Please send donation however small and save the baby. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Kaveri S S. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

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Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, a Left icon who dreamt of a resurgent West Bengal

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

BUDDHADEB BHATTACHARJEE (1944 - 2024)

Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, veteran Communist leader and former West Bengal Chief Minister, was fond of quoting the opening line of the Charles Dickens novel *A Tale of Two Cities*. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...," he repeated at almost every public event he attended as Chief Minister during his two terms between 2000 and 2011.

This was because he not only understood the hope and aspirations of the people of his State, particularly the youth, but also realised that Bengal had to quickly change its mindset from the status quo.

As the world settled into the first decade of the new millennium, he became Chief Minister. He moved fast to initiate changes, and guide the people out of the stagnation, particularly due to lack of industries and jobs.

When the Left Front was ousted from power after three decades by Mamata Banerjee in 2011, Mr. Bhattacharjee remained in public life for a few more years. But post 2016, his failing health confined him to his Palm Avenue residence in Kolkata, till he passed away on Thursday.

Bhattacharjee was the last of the Communist stalwarts from West Bengal, a quintessential member of the Bhadralok who loved to read poetry, Kafka and Marquez and was a huge fan of sports. Honest and transparent, he dreamt of transforming West Bengal from an industry-starved to an industry-resurgent State. At his numerous public meetings, he kept harping on one issue – jobs for the youth. "There are thousands of students who are coming out of our colleges, and what will we offer them? They want work. Will they have to go out of the State?" he would ask.

A difficult task

But things were far from easy. As Chief Minister, he had to grapple with the difficult task of land acquisition for industrial purposes and was met with resistance in Singur and Nandigram. Though his dream failed to materialise, he did not budge from his stand – that industrial development was of utmost importance.

While admitting some lapses in the way the land acquisition process was initiated, he was convinced that land reforms that formed the basis of the Left rule in the early decades would not sustain much longer. "Agriculture remains our core, but industry is our future," he said.

In the tumultuous time of the seventh Left Front government (2006-2011), when a "rainbow alliance" of the Opposition led by the Trinamool Congress made governance difficult, ultra Left extremism reared its head in the Jangalmahal region, and the Darjeeling hills erupted in a prolonged agitation for a separate State, Bhattacharjee would rely on political solutions rather than brute force. "We will fight them politically," he would say.

In his memoirs, *Phire Dekha II*, he touches on these issues."Sometimes I wonder where I made the mistake. Was it land acquisition itself or was the process of land acquisition that was wrong? Was I too soft on the Opposition? We will take lessons from that experience," he wrote.

At a time when West Bengal is in a political flux, the slogan coined by him at the Brigade Parade Ground in 2016, *BJP hatao desh bachaoo, Trinamool hatao Bangla bachao,* still forms the bedrock of not only the Communist movement, but the entire Left movement of the State.

Waqf Bill goes to JPC after an acrimonious debate in Lok Sabha

Opposition calls the draft legislation 'draconian' and an attack on the Constitution; Minority Affairs Minister says Modi govt. aims to bring in reforms to give justice to ordinary Muslims as Waqf Boards have been captured by a handful of people

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

War of words: Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Samajwadi Party MP Akhilesh Yadav in a heated exchange during a discussion on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha on Thursday. ANI

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, has been referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Thursday after Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju introduced it in the Lok Sabha, amid strong objections from the Opposition parties which alleged that the legislation was targeted at the Muslim community.

The decision to send it to a JPC came after a two-hour debate in the Lok Sabha. Speaker Om Birla informed the House that he would constitute the committee after consulting the leaders of all parties.

Opposition parties called the proposed amendments to the Waqf law "an attack on the Constitution, interfering with religious matters and against the spirit of federalism". Leading the charge, senior Congress leader K.C. Venugopal called it a "draconian" Bill, and said it was brought with an eye on the Assembly elections in Maharashtra and Haryana.

Defending the Bill, Mr. Rijiju said it merely sought to implement reforms suggested by committees set up by the previous Congress government. Neither were any rights being snatched nor was religious freedom being curtailed, he said.

"Because you [Congress] couldn't do it, we had to bring these amendments... Some people have captured Waqf Boards, and this Bill has been brought to give justice to ordinary Muslims,"the Minister said, adding that many leaders in the Opposition had privately told him that State Waqf Boards had turned into a mafia.

Though BJP allies such as the Janata Dal (United), the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the Shiv Sena (Shinde) supported the Bill on the grounds of transparency and reform, sources said some of them had reservations. TDP MP G.M. Harish Balayogi said his party did not have a problem if the Bill was sent to a Select Committee to "remove misconceptions".

JD(U) leader and Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh, however, argued that the Opposition was mixing up the issue of institutions such as Waqf Boards with a place of worship such as a mosque.

The introduction of the Bill also witnessed a spat between Home Minister Amit Shah and Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav after Mr. Yadav said the government was proposing to curtail the powers of the Speaker but the Opposition would fight for the Chair. "This is an insult to the Chair. The rights of the Speaker do not belong to the Opposition, but to the whole House. Akhilesh-*ji is tarah ki golmol ki baat aap nahi kar sakte* [Akhilesh *ji* you can't speak in a roundabout way]. You are not the protector of the Speaker's rights," Mr. Shah said.

Far-reaching changes

The Waqf Bill seeks to make far-reaching changes to the 1995 law that governs Waqf Boards. The Bill proposes the inclusion of two Muslim women and two non-Muslim members on the Board, and inserts a new Section to prevent the wrongful declaration of a property as "Waqf". It introduces the District Collector as an arbiter to decide if a property is a Waqf or government land. In the 1995 Act, such decisions are made by the Waqf tribunal.

"This Bill is an attack on the faith and freedom of religion. You are going for Muslims, next you will go for Christians, Jains, Parsis," Mr. Venugopal said.

Mr. Yadav argued that the Bill was being introduced to appease the BJP's hardcore supporters. "What is the point of including non-Muslims in Waqf Boards when this is not done in other religious bodies," he asked.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader Kanimozhi said, "Will it be possible for a Muslim or a Christian to be part of a Board which manages a Hindu temple? No. Then why should somebody who doesn't believe in a particular religion have the right to make decisions on behalf of that religion?"

Nationalist Congress Party-Sharadchandra Pawar MP Supriya Sule said, "Look at what is happening in Bangladesh, there is so much pain. It is the moral duty of a country to protect minorities."

Arguing that the Bill is an attack on the Basic Structure of the Constitution as it "violates" the principle of judicial independence and separation of powers, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen chief Asaduddin Owaisi said, "You are enemies of Muslims and this Bill is evidence of that."

Mr. Rijiju said the Modi government had been forced to "undertake reforms" because the Congress did not do so. He cited the case of a village in Tamil Nadu being declared Waqf land to underline the need for reforms in the law.

He said there was no provision to challenge or review the order of the Waqf tribunal but now that was being changed to allow appeals to higher courts.

"In our country, no law can be a super law and that can't be above the Constitution. However, in the 1995 Waqf Act, there are provisions that are above the provisions in the Constitution. Shouldn't that be changed?" he asked.

In the Lok Sabha, Mr. Rijiju had also introduced a Bill to repeal the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923 to repeal a colonial-era law that was no longer in force for effective management of Waqf property.

In the Rajya Sabha, the Opposition objected to the withdrawing of the Waqf Properties (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Bill of 2014. CPI(M) MP John Brittas and Indian Union Muslim League MP Abdul Wahab gave notices against Mr. Rijiju's motion to withdraw the Bill to "provide for the eviction of unauthorised occupants from waqf properties". Mr. Brittas said the Bill would serve to grab waqf properties and the Centre's intention was to create polarisation. Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar put both the notices to vote and the Upper House rejected it by a voice vote.

Teary adieu: Mourners gather around the mortal remains of CPI(M) leader Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee in Kolkata. DEBASISH BHADURI

Emotions run high at house of the 'last honest politician'

Moyurie Som
Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

Attaullah was working in a paddy field in Hooghly when news of Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee's death reached him. The farmer immediately left on a motorbike for Kolkata. In soiled clothes and with a CPI(M) flag in his hand, a teary-eyed Attaullah stood outside the former West Bengal Chef Minister's residence hoping to see "sir one last time, give him one *laal salaam*".

"I did not think he will pass away so suddenly," Attaullah told *The Hindu*.

Scores, like Attaullah, converged on the South Kolkata neighbourhood where the former Chief Minister, arguably the last chief of the once-formidable Left citadel in the State, lived in his modest residence.

Forward Bloc supporter Sanjib Saha patiently waited with a red flag in his hand. "We have lost a guardian today. It is the end of the era," he said.

Neighbours of the late leader stood for hours to see his last journey. "We have known him and his family for generations. He has always been around us like a humble neighbour and never threw his weight around to intimidate people," Manjima Lahiri, a senior citizen, said.

As cries of "Comrade Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee *ke laal salaam, laal salaam*" and "*Inquilab zindabad*" reverberated through the air, the leader's body was slowly carried out of the ground floor flat.

"Let me see him once, I will never be able to see him again," shouted a supporter from the crowd.

Emotions ran high among the hundreds of party workers and mourners who joined the procession as the hearse rolled towards the mortuary where Mr. Bhattacharjee's mortal remains will be kept till Friday morning.

Piyali Majumdar and Kakali Mukherjee rushed to to pay respects. "He was the last honest politician. There is no one like him any more," Ms. Majumdar said.

Leaders recall Buddhadeb's rich cultural contributions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Expressing profound grief at the passing away of former West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, the CPI(M) Polit Bureau in a statement here said with his death, a chapter in the Communist and Left movement of West Bengal has ended.

The Polit Bureau applauded his "distinctive role" as a Minister and Chief Minister of the Left front government. "Buddhadeb made a significant contribution to the development of cultural institutions and sustaining progressive cultural values," the statement said.

Paying tribute to Mr. Bhattacharya, CPI general secretary D. Raja said, "His absence will also be felt in Bengal's literary and cultural arena, where he was a towering presence."

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge expressed his condolences, and said his thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Bhattacharjee's family and party workers.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin called Mr. Bhattacharya a resolute Marxist who steadfastly served the State and the nation. "A resolute Marxist, he devoted his life to fostering an egalitarian society, championing the cause of the marginalised, and advocating for social justice. His achievements and his literary contributions have left a lasting legacy," he posted on X.

TVS HOLDINGS LIMITED

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CIN : L35999TN1962PLC004792

STATEMENT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated		
		Quarter ended		Year ended	Quarter ended		Year ended
		30.06.2024	30.06.2023	31.03.2024	30.06.2024	30.06.2023	31.03.2024
		(Unaudited)		(Audited)	(Unaudited)		(Audited)
1	Total Income	136.37	589.02	1,646.56	10,483.12	9,587.99	40,282.02
2	Net Profit / (Loss) before tax (before Exceptional Items)	15.02	48.02	415.19	732.28	614.04	2,791.49
3	Net Profit / (Loss) before tax (after Exceptional Items)	15.02	44.69	410.12	732.28	610.71	2,786.42
4	Net Profit / (Loss) after tax (after Exceptional Items)	12.82	27.95	338.74	481.03	409.41	1,782.38
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) (after tax)]	12.80	25.69	336.08	451.09	359.35	1,728.28
6	Equity share Capital (Face value of Rs.5/-each)	10.12	10.12	10.12	10.12	10.12	10.12
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)			1,439.45			2,829.95
8	Securities Premium	36.44	36.42	36.42	36.44	36.42	36.42
9	Networth	1453.12	746.14	1,440.37	2,809.37	3,023.55	2,619.28
10	Outstanding Debt (Excluding Non Convertible Redeemable Preference Shares)	643.64	770.55	550.00	26,958.06	25,842.69	26,232.48
11	Outstanding redeemable Preference Shares	-	2346.92	-	-	2,346.92	-
12	Debt Equity Ratio (Including exceptional item)	0.39	1.01	0.31	7.70	6.41	8.24
13	Earnings Per Share (Face value of Rs.5/-each) (not annualised) (In Rs.)						
	(i) Basic	6.34	13.81	167.43	107.20	97.09	395.60
	(ii) Diluted	6.34	13.81	167.43	107.20	97.09	395.60
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -					
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -					
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	NA	2.73	NA	NA	1.17	NA
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	NA	6.34	NA	NA	8.22	NA
18	Current ratio (Times)	NA	0.87	NA	NA	1.01	NA
19	Long term debt to working capital (Times)	NA	-	NA	NA	3.08	NA
20	Bad debts to Accounts Receivable (Times)	NA	-	NA	NA	-	NA
21	Current Liability Ratio (Times)	NA	0.54	NA	NA	0.61	NA
22	Total debts to total assets ratio (Times)	0.30	0.38	0.23	0.59	0.61	0.59
23	Debtors Turnover ratio (Times)	NA	7.54	NA	NA	22.96	NA
24	Inventory Turnover ratio (Times)	NA	3.53	NA	NA	7.14	NA
25	Operating Margin (%)	NA	12.71	NA	NA	13.16	NA
26	Net Profit Margin (%)	9.40	4.74	20.57	4.59	4.38	4.44

Notes:

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 & 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the Stock exchanges websites (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.tvsholdings.com).
2. Pursuant to the scheme of arrangement approved by Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Chennai, the Die casting business of the Company was demerged on 10th August 2023. Accordingly, the results for the quarter ended 30th June 2023 are not comparable with the figures presented for the other periods.
3. Figures for the previous periods have been regrouped, wherever necessary, to conform to the current period's classification.

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 8th August 2024

For TVS Holdings Limited
Sd/-
Venu Srinivasan
Chairman

INBRIEF

MPs to hold motorbike rally with Tricolour on August 13

MPs belonging to all parties will participate in a motorbike rally to commemorate the National Flag on August 13 ahead of the Independence Day celebrations. The "*Tiranga* Rally" is part of the *Har Ghar Tiranga* campaign which will be celebrated from August 9 to 15, Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (in photo) said here on Thursday. "The idea behind the initiative had been to invoke the feeling of patriotism in the hearts of the people and to promote awareness about the Indian National Flag," the Culture Ministry said. Mr. Shekhawat said he had personally spoken with most MPs and was assured of their participation.

Govt. defers debate on private member's Bill on OBC quota

Averting a possible showdown between the Opposition and Treasury benches over a private member's Bill moved by Samajwadi Party MP Javed Ali Khan seeking reservation for OBCs proportional to their population, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday moved a motion in Rajya Sabha deferring a debate on it. The Bill was moved in the Rajya Sabha on August 2. Mr. Khan's Bill sought to amend this clause, arguing that the OBCs have not secured representation proportionate to their population in government jobs. One of the objectives of the Bill is to enable adequate reservation for OBCs in appointments or posts and thereby increase the representation of OBCs.

No clinical trial for drugs approved in select nations

Centre waives the requirement if drugs are approved in U.S., U.K., Japan, Australia, Canada and EU; it specifies five categories for new drugs that will be considered for the Indian market

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

In a decision that will make drugs manufactured outside India more accessible and affordable in the local market, the Union government has decided to waive the requirement for clinical trials in India if the drugs are approved in the U.S., the U.K., Japan, Australia, Canada, or the European Union.

The government has specified a set of five categories for new drugs that will be considered for the Indian market.

Rare disease drugs

Drugs for rare diseases, gene and cellular therapy products, new drugs used in pandemic situations, new drugs used for special defence purposes, and new drugs having significant therapeutic advances over the current standard care will be considered for waiver, said a senior Health Ministry official, adding that names of the countries on the current list can be taken off and new ones added.

The order issued by India's drug regulatory agency, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, on Wednesday said the Union government had authorised the exemption of local clinical trials for approval of new drugs under Rule 101.

Drugs for rare diseases and new drugs used in pandemic situations are among those that will be considered for the waiver. AP

Govt. Rules

"As per Rule 101 of the New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules, 2019, the Central licensing authority, with approval of the Union government, may specify by an order, the name of the countries from time to time for considering waiver of local clinical trial for approval of new drugs under Chapter X and for grant of permission for conduct of clinical trial under Chapter V of the said rules," reads the order.

Meanwhile, another official at the Union Health Ministry noted that the order has been a long-standing demand of the pharmaceutical companies and health experts who have been advocating for enhanced drug accessibility for patients and for research.

'Progressive move'

Anil Matai, director-general, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), reacting to the announcement, said that this a welcome and progressive move that will significantly benefit both domestic and foreign drug manufacturers by expediting the approval process and facilitating faster access to essential medications for Indian patients.

"The OPPI has been advocating for this notification, recognising its potential to transform both the pharmaceuticals, and the healthcare landscape in India. The inclusion of specific categories such as orphan drugs for rare diseases, gene and cellular therapy products, new drugs used in pandemic situations, those for special defence purposes and new drugs with significant therapeutic advance over the current standard care would address critical and unmet medical needs. This strategic alignment is particularly crucial for accelerating access to innovative therapies to the patients in India," he said.

The group has, however, maintained that extending these waivers to a broader range of therapeutic categories will further enhance access to cutting-edge treatments. It has asked the Centre to consider additional therapeutic areas where similar waivers could significantly impact patient access.

Upset at Opposition's conduct, Dhankhar walks out of House

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jagdeep Dhankhar. PTI

Tempers ran high in the Rajya Sabha after Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar turned down the Opposition's demand for a discussion on the disqualification of wrestler Vinesh Phogat from the Olympics. In protest, the Opposition walked out. Mr. Dhankhar, accusing the Opposition of unruly conduct, also left the House.

The trouble started within a few minutes after the House sat for the day. Leader of the Opposition and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge stood up to raise Ms. Phogat's disqualification and demanded to know "who is behind it". Four members from the Trinamool Congress, Congress, AAP and CPI had also given notice under Rule 267, requiring suspension of the day's business to discuss the "circumstances surrounding the disqualification of Vinesh".

Angered by the Opposition's conduct, especially of Trinamool MP Derek O'Brien, he said, "You are shouting at the Chair. Your conduct is the ugliest in the House. I condemn your actions. Next time I will show you the door." At this point, the Opposition walked out.

Mr. Dhankhar said the Chair had been repeatedly challenged. "These challenges are not directed at me; they are aimed at the Chair, implying that the person occupying it is unworthy. I have only one alternative. With a heavy heart, I find myself incapable of continuing to sit here for some time," he said .

At 1.30 p.m., a group of Opposition leaders met Mr. Dhankhar in his chamber. According to sources, they told him that the House should be run by "rules and precedents". At least one member said that when the rules were not being followed, "what else can the Opposition do other than protest?" "On July 29, five BJP MPs submitted notice to discuss flooding and deaths in an IAS coaching centre in Delhi. That discussion was allowed. But today, when a similar number of Opposition MPs wanted to raise an issue, we were disallowed," an MP said.

Under-construction bridge collapses in Bihar's Katihar; 14th such failure since June

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

A bridge being constructed across the Ganga at Bakia Sukhay in Bihar's Katihar district collapsed on Thursday, officials said. This is the 14th instance of bridge collapse in the State since June. The bridge was being constructed at a cost of ₹3 crore by the Rural Works Department and was expected to be inaugurated soon.

This project was to be completed in 2023, but its deadline revised to July 2024. With the construction of the bridge, the people of Bakia Sukhay panchayat and its surrounding areas would have had direct access to Barari, block headquarters, by road.

Residents said it had rained continuously for the past two days in the area and the rain, coupled with the heavy flow in the Ganga, had led to the collapse. "Due to the erosion caused by the Ganga, two pillars of the bridge built by the Rural Works Department, collapsed. The matter is being investigated and action would be taken accordingly," said Anwar Jamal, Chief Engineer, Katihar Flood Control Division.

A bridge across the Ganga collapsed in Katihar on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

There have been a slew of bridge collapses in the State in the past 30 days. On June 22, a portion of a bridge collapsed in Siwan and on June 18, in Araria, an under-construction bridge had caved-in. On July 10, a bridge had come crashing down at Mahishi village in Saharsa district. The Bihar government has suspended at least 15 engineers in connection with the damage.

The most recent bridge collapse also comes at the time when a bridge in Araria district had been criticised for being constructed in the middle of an open field, with no road connectivity on either side.

Ask GST Council to take a call on tax on health insurance premiums: FM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union government has nothing to do with imposing the goods and services tax (GST) on health insurance premiums, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman insisted in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, maintaining that the issue is entirely in the realm of the GST Council, which includes representatives from all State governments. "Before GST too, medical insurance premiums were taxed," she said during her reply to a debate on the Finance Bill.

The Upper House returned the Bill following her reply, completing the process of approving the Union Budget.

Countering charges that the Centre is pocketing the GST on health insurance premium, Ms. Sitharaman accused the Opposition of trying to gain political points on the issue. "Let the GST Council take a call," she said, adding that every State levied taxes on premiums.

Nirmala Sitharaman speaking in the Rajya Sabha during the Monsoon Session of Parliament in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

'Write to State FMs'

Noting that the GST Council has discussed the issue thrice in the past, she said that the Finance Ministers of all States were present in the GST Council where decisions are taken by consensus. MPs who were protesting the tax with placards in Parliament must instead write to Finance Ministers in their respective States. "What stopped you?" she asked.

Objecting to allegations that the GST on health insurance premiums is "daylight robbery", the Finance Minister pointed out that 50% of the GST collected goes to the States, and out of the Centre's 50% share as well, 41% is given to the States.

Opposition members had also raised Union Minister Nitin Gadkari's letter to Ms. Sitharaman on the matter. Without naming Mr. Gadkari, she said that the Opposition had got an opportunity to raise the issue with "some Ministers" writing a letter, claiming that "somebody" who was part of a delegation had put it out in the public domain without the Minister's permission.

Balancing priorities

Ms. Sitharaman said the Budget balanced several overriding imperatives, including growth, employment generation, capital investment, and fiscal consolidation. "We have tried to balance all these without compromising on any one sector," she said.

Govt. tightens disclosure norms for solar makers

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

In a move to tighten scrutiny of domestic Indian solar cell and module-manufacturing companies, the Centre on Wednesday ordered them to upload details of their annual imports and exports, as well as the location of their manufacturing facilities on two online portals.

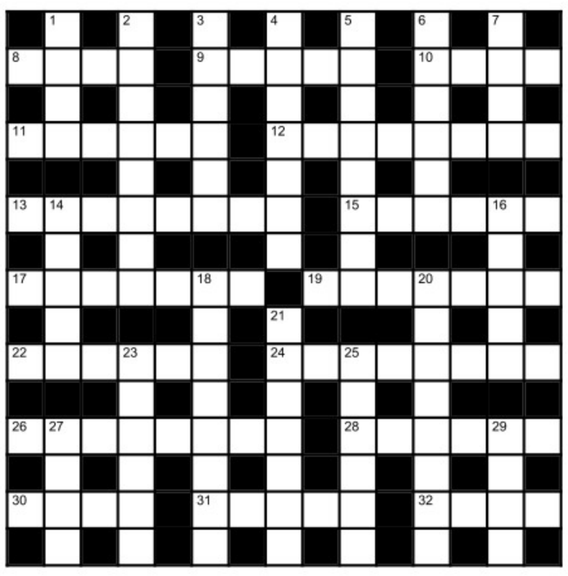
Through this approach, companies are self-certifying as users and makers of indigenous solar cell components though they will be appraised by the National Institute of Solar Energy. This is part of an order that came into effect in April, called Approved Models and Manufacturers of Solar Photovoltaic Modules (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2019,.

TH CROSSWORD + 14249

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 President's team (4)
9 Bird loses a large feather (5)
10 Repeat, "European Commission is in front of head office" (4)
11 Photographic equipment arrived with artists (6)
12 Boy hugged by Chary daily (8)
13 Burns church in the twenties (8)
15 Uniform news spreading around institute is foolish (6)
17 'e is an intellectual? (7)
19 Write on paper: "Author's way of going on strike" (3,4)
22 Believes and struts around (6)
24 Hemp root transported in ship's base (4,4)
26 Door put under a spell (8)
28 Doctor Evil is bad? Nonsense! (6)
30 Affix one's hand, poster (4)
31 Poe leaves Ethiopia in turmoil for West Indian country (5)
32 Mat despatched from emirate is manufactured for North Atlantic island (4)

Down

1 Mail wrongly delivered in capital (4)
2 Deep study resulting from crashing cars here (8)
3 Pulverise melon, for example (6)
4 See... see 1 cod swimming (7)
5 Going around grasslands? Undiluted fun! (8)
6 Chap dropped with a cry (6)
7 Drop barn (4)
14 American soldier retreats in vehicle in Havana, for example (5)
16 Tailor's waste water channel (5)
18 Sailor's in the alcoholic spirit (8)
20 Without energy, coiled viper's indeed disadvantaged (8)
21 Cad following woman that is showing bike stunt (7)
23 Shoot around the middle of the month in season (6)
25 After dam bursts, gets rid of capital (6)
27 Fix fluttering mainsail after leaving Siam (4)
29 Easterner disposing trees in pieces to make money (4)

SUDOKU

3					9		5	
		7	6					
		4		3	1			
1				6		4		
	2	8				6	3	
		6		7				9
			4	1		9		
					3	8		
	1		9					4

No.SS6245 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	8	3	4	9	7	6	2	5
6	7	9	5	8	2	1	3	4
2	4	5	3	1	6	9	7	8
9	5	8	7	2	4	3	1	6
7	1	4	9	6	3	5	8	2
3	2	6	8	5	1	7	4	9
5	6	1	2	3	8	4	9	7
4	3	2	6	7	9	8	5	1
8	9	7	1	4	5	2	6	3

FAITH

Protectors of Sivanadiyars

The 63 Nayanmars were not merely Saivite saints, focusing on only the Divine Dancer, they were also careful that no ill befell sivanadiyars, the servitors of Siva. Anyone who offended the Lord (with irreverence), or a devotee of the Lord or the articles of offerings used in worship of Siva incurred the wrath of Nayanmars who meted out summary punishment, said P. Swaminathan in a discourse. Serruthunai Nayanar was one such. Hailing from Keezhthanjavur, he journeyed on foot every day to Tiruvaroor to offer services at the temple. He was also in charge of the team stringing flowers to be offered to the deities.

One day, the consort of Kazharrhinga, the Pallava King, picked up a flower lying a little apart in the flower garland stringing hall and smelt it. Unable to bear the offence, Serruthunai Nayanar took action. Arriving upon the scene, the king demanded to know who had done the foul deed. Sekkizhar says, "When at that juncture Serruthunai came up to him and related to him what had happened before, the King looked at him and asked, 'But should not the punishment befitting this offence be inflicted in accordance with the manner in which the crime took shape?'" He then pulled out his scimitar and cut off the hand of his queen. The King who executed this justice ruled for long and in the end reached the feet of Lord Siva.

INBRIEF

NMDC slashes iron-ore prices for second consecutive time

State-owned NMDC has reduced iron prices by ₹600 per tonne for the lump ore variety and ₹500 for fines with effect from August 7. Post the change, lump ore costs ₹5,350 per tonne and fines ₹4,610, a filing by the company on Thursday showed. This is the second consecutive downward revision of the prices this fiscal by India's largest iron ore producer. In the previous revision effective June 30, NMDC had slashed lump ore and fines' prices by ₹500 a tonne each.

Mercedes-Benz introduces top-end vehicles at ₹1.10 crore

Mercedes-Benz India introduced two top-end vehicles (TEVs), the Mercedes-Benz CLE 300 4MATIC Cabriolet and Mercedes-AMG GLC 43 4MATIC Coupe in India both priced at about ₹1.10 crore (all India ex-showroom). "Our top-end vehicles (TEVs) continue to drive strong customer loyalty and these two vehicles will further enhance the desirability of the TEV segment," said Santosh Iyer, Managing Director & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India

Radisson Hotel group plans to open 100-room ECR property

Radisson Hotel Group announced the expansion of its upper-midscale brand Park Inn by Radisson with the signing of a 100-room property at ECR in Chennai. It is being developed in partnership with Chanda Hotels Pvt. Ltd. and set open in Q2 of 2028. "This new signing is a welcome addition to our existing portfolio and allows us to leverage the region's growing tourism potential," said Nikhil Sharma, Radisson Hotel Group MD and Area Senior Vice President - South Asia.

'RBI can't ignore food inflation'

Food inflation, with a weight of about 46% in CPI basket, contributed to more than 75% of headline inflation in May, June, while vegetable prices increased sharply and contributed about 35% to headline price gains in June, says RBI Governor Das

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das stressed that the central bank could not afford to ignore food inflation while formulating monetary policy given the risk of spillovers which could undermine policy credibility.

He said food inflation, with a weight of about 46% in the CPI basket, contributed to more than 75% of the headline inflation in May and June.

"High inflation pressures persisted across other major food items also. On the other hand, the softening in core inflation continues to be broad-based, with core services inflation touching a new low in the current CPI series during May-June," Mr. Das said on Thursday.

Dash of reality

High inflation pressures persisted across major food items, RBI's Das says in monetary policy statement

- Impact of milk price, mobile tariff revisions needs to be watched, says Das
- There is considerable divergence between headline and core inflation, RBI notes
- 'Any delinking of food inflation from inflation-targeting framework will depend on NSO survey'

Stating high food price momentum might have continued in July, he said large favourable base effects might have pushed headline inflation downwards in July.

"The impact of the revision in milk prices and mobile tariffs needs to be watched," he said. "Continuing food price shocks slowed the process of disinflation in Q1. There is also considerable divergence between headline and core inflation. This has brought to the fore the issue of how much importance should the MPC give to food inflation," he observed. "The MPC has to remain vigilant to prevent spillovers or second round effects from persistent food inflation and preserve the gains made so far in monetary policy credibility," Mr. Das emphasised.

On a suggestion in the Economic Survey to delink food inflation from inflation-targeting framework, he said the NSO was undertaking a survey on food-price inflation and based on the findings a decision would be taken at the appropriate time by the government and the RBI.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	78,886	-0.73
US Dollar	83.97	-0.02
Gold	71,350	------
Brent oil	79	0.46

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3167.55	-18.40
Adani Ports	1519.00	-24.80
Apollo Hosp	6541.90	-178.45
Asian Paints	3005.40	-96.05
Axis Bank	1138.15	1.35
Bajaj Auto	9641.30	-66.90
Bajaj Finserv	1540.05	-31.35
Bajaj Finance	6582.20	-54.95
Bharti Airtel	1451.80	10.05
BPCL	338.30	-5.35
Britannia Ind	5744.65	-92.15
Cipla	1569.95	16.40
Coal India	523.45	-8.05
Divis Lab	4834.50	-112.00
Dr Reddys Lab	6938.30	11.95
Eicher Motors	4576.90	-20.25
Grasim Ind	2544.65	-92.40
HCL Tech	1557.85	-36.75
HDFC Bank	1642.70	19.20
HDFC Life	710.35	14.10
Hero MotoCorp	5158.90	-82.25
Hindalco	614.05	-9.65
Hind Unilever	2733.20	-10.85
ICICI Bank	1164.60	-7.85
IndusInd Bank	1347.30	2.15
Infosys	1743.15	-48.50
ITC	494.75	2.10
JSW Steel	887.55	-18.90
Kotak Bank	1772.75	-3.80
L&T	3553.55	-84.70
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5338.30	-229.20
M&M	2682.95	2.10
Maruti Suzuki	12218.85	-152.65
NestleIndia	2489.10	-33.70
NTPC	407.70	-8.60
ONGC	322.70	-6.40
PowerGrid Corp	342.65	-9.40
Reliance Ind	2898.25	-31.40
SBI Life	1706.30	20.60
State Bank	808.05	-0.60
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2872.20	-52.85
Sun Pharma	1737.05	2.60
TataConsumerProduct	1178.30	-21.30
Tata Motors	1041.75	16.45
Tata Steel	150.28	-3.58
TCS	4172.55	-27.90
Tech Mahindra	1466.45	-7.20
Titan	3296.50	-29.75
UltraTech Cement	11258.00	-285.20
Wipro	487.30	-10.10

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 08

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.76	84.08
Euro	91.54	91.89
British Pound	106.32	106.73
Japanese Yen (100)	57.36	57.58
Chinese Yuan	11.68	11.73
Swiss Franc	97.69	98.07
Singapore Dollar	63.24	63.50
Canadian Dollar	60.92	61.17
Malaysian Ringitt	18.72	18.80
Australian Dollar	54.90	55.11

Source:Indian Bank

'Can pay ₹5 lakh in taxes via UPI soon'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The RBI has decided to enhance the limit for tax payments via UPI from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per transaction, Governor Shaktikanta Das announced on Thursday.

"As direct and indirect tax payments are common, regular and high value, it has been decided to enhance the limit for tax payments through UPI from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per transaction. Necessary instructions will be issued," Mr. Das elaborated.

The RBI is also provisioning to introduce 'Delegated Payments' through UPI. This will enable a secondary user, like a spouse to make payments via UPI by using the bank account of the primary user.

Delegated Payments would enable a UPI user to set a payment limit for another user on their bank account. "This product is expected to add to the reach of digital payments," and would add to the 424 million individual user base, Mr. Das added.

RBI okays continuous CTS clearing of cheques

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

For expeditious cheque clearnace, the RBI announced continuous clearing of cheques under Cheque Truncation System (CTS). Under this, cheques would be cleared within hours of submission instead of the two days now.

"Cheques will be scanned, presented and passed in a few hours and on a continuous basis during business hours," said Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das.

"The clearing cycle will reduce from the present T+1 days to a few hours."

'Will compile digital lending apps guide'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

To help borrowers verify claims of digital lending apps' (DLAs) association with Regulated Entities (RE), the RBI will make available a public repository of DLAs on its website.

"The repository will be based on data submitted by REs (without any RBI intervention) directly to the repository and will get updated as when REs report the details – addition of new DLAs or deletion of any existing DLA," Governor Shaktikanta Das announced on Thursday.

Guidelines on digital lending to protect customer interest, data privacy, concerns on interest rates and recovery practices, and so on, were issued on September 2, 2022.

"However, media reports have highlighted continued presence of unscrupulous players in digital lending who falsely claim their association with RBI regulated entities," Mr. Das added.

MRF Q1 net profit skids 3% to ₹563 crore on input costs

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

MRF Ltd. reported standalone net profit for the June quarter contracted by 3% from the year-earlier period to ₹563 crore on a surge in raw-material costs.

Revenue from operations rose ₹755 crore to ₹7,078 crore while cost of materials increased by ₹597 crore to ₹4,319 crore, the tyre major said.

The results included a provision of ₹30 crore towards levy on extended producer responsibility. Consolidated net profit slid ₹18 crore to ₹571 crore. Revenue surged ₹756 crore to ₹7,196 crore, MRF added.

'India's new business families are wealthier'

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

'Only six of top 30 richest Indian business families have four or more generations involved'

New business families are wealthier than older ones as of 2024, according to data from a Barclays report measuring wealth of India's business families.

Moreover, only six of the top 30 richest business families have four or more generations actively involved in their businesses, Barclays said.

These were Kumaramangalam Birla, Wadia, Godrej, Burman, TVS and Singhania families, with Birla the richest among them at ₹5.4 lakh crore. The Birlas were ranked third in the list.

The Ambani family valued at ₹25 lakh crore topped the list with wealth at almost three times that of the second richest – the Bajaj's and five times that of the Birlas.

The first edition of the 'Barclays Private Clients Hurun India Most Valuable Family Businesses 2024', released on Thursday, also features newer families. The Adani family tops this list with an active second generation and is valued at ₹15 lakh crore, six times that of the Poonawala family of the Serum Institute.

LIC Q1 net rises 10% to ₹10,461 crore on premiums

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) reported standalone net profit rose 9.61% in the June quarter to ₹10,461 crore from ₹9,544 crore a year earlier.

The higher net profit came on a 15.7% increase in total premium income to ₹1,13,770 crore (₹98,363 crore). Value of new business increased by 23.7% to ₹1,610 crore, LIC said.

On health-insurance foray, CEO and MD Siddhartha Mohanty said preliminary work had begun internally towards acquiring a majority stake in a standalone health insurer.

'Consumer goods sales slow sharply'

Reuters

Indian consumer products' sales slowed sharply to a more-than-one-year low from April to June due to softening demand for personal care products and packaged wheat flour, especially in urban areas, market researcher NielsenIQ said on Thursday.

The overall sales volume growth slowed to 3.8% in the second quarter, compared with growth rates of 6.4% to 8.6% in the past four quarters, "largely due to macroeconomic headwinds," NielsenIQ said.

High food inflation

India's retail inflation hovered around 5% in the quarter, mostly due to high food prices, forcing consumers in the world's most populous country to cut back wherever possible to make ends meet.

The sales volume growth in rural areas slowed to 5.2%, from 7.6% in the previous quarter, but fared better than urban markets, where growth slowed even more sharply to 2.8% from 5.7%.

Growth in rural pockets outpaced urban for the first time in five quarters as consumer firms, including Dove-soapmaker Hindustan Unilever trimmed prices to win back consumers.

TVS Holdings Q1 net rises 18% to ₹481 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

TVS Holdings Ltd. reported consolidated net profit for the June quarter grew by 18% from the year-earlier period to ₹481 crore. Revenue from operations rose 9% to ₹10,476 crore of which sale of goods and services was ₹8,740 crore.

Coffee output may be 'significantly lower'

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Coffee Board of India hinted coffee production for 2024-25 may be significantly lower as there has been a considerable loss of plants and berries on account of high temperature, heavy rainfall and landslides in coffee heartlands.

"There is considerable loss due to high temperatures during April and May and heavy rains in July and August. A lot of damage to plants and plantations reported in most key coffee growing areas," K. G. Jagadeesha, CEO, Coffee Board told *The Hindu*.

Karnataka accounts for 70% of the country's total coffee production, while Kerala is the second-largest producer with a contribution of 23%. However, in Wayanad, more than 200 acre of land under coffee cultivation was washed away in the recent landslide, significantly impacting this year's production.

He said the board has written to coffee-growing districts asking them to constitute inter-disciplinary teams to conduct comprehensive survey of plantations to assess losses.

Chola MS aims to grow at 17-18%: MD

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Co. Ltd. (Chola MS) aims to grow at about 1.25-times the average industry growth over the medium term, Managing Director V. Suryanarayanan said.

"Our intent is to grow 1.25x of industry in the medium term," Mr. Suryanarayanan said in a media interaction. "If the industry grows at 14%, we should be growing at 17-18%."

While motor insurance premium was expected to be around 62-63% of total revenue, followed by commercial vehicle insurance at about 16%, health insurance about 17%, and crop loan insurance seeing some marginal growth, the insurer's aim was to diversify its business beyond the mainstay motor insurance, Mr. Suryanarayanan said.

"While we see absolute growth in motor premium, we would like to diversify our business and bring it down to 58-60% in the medium term. We would also like to grow faster in health insurance from 15% to 20% of our total business composition by bringing out new products such as for senior citizens," he added.

Chola MS, a joint venture between Murugappa Group and Japan-based Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Group, also expects to increase its equity investment book from the present 4.5% to 10% over the next 18 months.

पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिका, पिंपरी 18
विद्युत विभाग
ई-निविदा सुचना क्र. - Ele/HO/F/09-01/2024-25

पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिके कडून खालील नमूद केलेल्या कामासाठी ई-टेंडरिंग पध्दतीने परसेंट रेट निविदा मागविण्यात येत आहे. प्रचलित दराने GST बिलात अदा केली जाईल त्यामुळे GST वगळून दर द्यावेत.

निविदा नोटीस क्रमांक	कामाचे नाव	निविदा रक्कम	बयाणा रक्कम	अनामत रक्कम	कामाची मुदत (महिने)	निविदा फॉर्म फी जीएसटी सह (परत न मिळणारी)
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ई -निविदा उपलब्ध कालावधी	दिनांक - 09/08/2024 ते दि 16/08/2024
ई -निविदा स्विकृती अंतिम वेळ व दिनांक	दिनांक - 16/08/2024 दुपारी 3.00 वा.
निविदा पूर्व सभा वेळ व दिनांक	दिनांक - 12/08/2024 सकाळी 11.00 वा.
निविदा उघडणेचा दिनांक	दिनांक - 20/08/2024 दुपारी 3.00 वा. (शक्य झाल्यास)

वरील कामांसाठीचा तपशील उदा. बयाणा, अनामत रक्कम, निविदाच्या अटी शर्ती, निविदा शेड्यूल्ड बी इ. माहिती **https://mahatenders.gov.in** या वेबसाईटवर उपलब्ध आहे. त्यानुसार निविदा भरावयाची आहे.

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जाहिरात क्रमांक - 98
क्र. विमुका/05/ कावि/ 354/ 2024
दि. 08/08/2024

COX'S BAZAR

Bangladesh recovers 34 bodies of refugees fleeing Myanmar

AFP

The bodies of 34 Rohingya refugees, who fled war-torn Myanmar only to drown when their overcrowded boat sank while crossing a river to Bangladesh, have been recovered, a top local government official said on Thursday. The police said the group had fled their villages in Rakhine state and their boat sank in the Naf river. AFP

HOUSTON

U.S. executes second prisoner in days for murder, sexual assault

A Utah man was executed on Thursday for the 1998 murder and sexual assault of his ex-girlfriend's mother, the second execution this week in the United States. Taberon Dave Honie, 48, was put to death by lethal injection at the Utah State Correctional Facility in Salt Lake City, the State's Department of Corrections said. AFP

GAZA STRIP

Israel strikes on two schools kill more than 18, says civil defence

AFP

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli strikes hit two schools in Gaza City on Thursday, killing more than 18 people, while the Israeli military said it struck Hamas command centres. "The school compounds were used by Hamas terrorists and commanders ... from which they carried out attacks," the Israeli military said. AFP

CARACAS

Venezuela charges four journalists with 'terrorism', says press union

REUTERS

Venezuelan authorities have charged four journalists with "terrorism" after they were arrested during the country's post-election unrest, a local press union said on Wednesday. The journalists have also been denied access to their lawyers. The crime of terrorism carries a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison. AFP

Hasina will be back in Dhaka once democracy is restored, says her son

It is not yet decided whether she will be back as a 'retired or active' politician, says Sajeeb Wazed Joy; he blames Pakistan's ISI for fuelling the ongoing unrest in Bangladesh, and vows to do 'whatever it takes' to protect the country from anarchy

Press Trust of India
KOLKATA

Sheikh Hasina, who quit as Prime Minister and left Bangladesh, will be back in the country as soon as democracy is restored, her son Sajeeb Wazed Joy said on Thursday and blamed Pakistan's intelligence agency, ISI, for fuelling the ongoing unrest in the country.

In an interview, Mr. Joy said that although 76-year-old Ms. Hasina would definitely return to Bangladesh, it is not yet decided whether she will be back as a "retired or active" politician. He also asserted that the members of Sheikh Mujib's family will neither abandon its people nor leave the beleaguered Awami League in the lurch.

Bidding time: The members of the Sheikh Mujib family will not abandon its people in the lurch, says Sheikh Hasina's son. AP

He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government for protecting his mother and appealed to India to help build international opinion and exert pressure for the restoration of democracy in Bangladesh.

"Yes, it is true that I had said she wouldn't return to Bangladesh. But a lot has changed in the last two days following continuous attacks on our leaders and party workers across the country. Now we are going to do whatever it takes; we are not going to leave them alone."

"The Awami League is the largest and oldest political party in Bangladesh, so we cannot just walk away from our people. She will definitely return to Bangladesh once democracy is restored," he said over the phone.

With an interim government taking charge in Bangladesh, Mr. Joy also urged India to restore law and order, noting that "the country is turning into a state of anarchy and becoming a second Afghanistan in the region".

He said he also expects the interim government to create a level-playing field whenever democracy is restored and fresh elections are held.

"Whatever his (Mohammed Yunus) personal views are, he has said that he wants a government of unity and wants to move forward and not let the mistakes of the past cloud over the future. I hope he stays true to his word," he asserted.

Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus took oath as the head of Bangladesh's interim government on Thursday.

Declining to comment directly on whether he and his sister Saima Wazed would enter politics, Mr. Joy said he would do whatever it takes to protect Bangladesh from total anarchy.

Israel revokes status of Norway envoys to Palestine

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israel said on Thursday it was revoking the diplomatic status of Norway's envoys to the Palestinian Authority, accusing Oslo of "anti-Israel behaviour" during the Gaza war and drawing a formal protest.

The United States said the Israeli move was unhelpful given Norway's history as the facilitator of the secret negotiations with the Palestinians which led to the Oslo Accords of the 1990s.

Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz said he "ordered the termination of any representation on behalf of the Norwegian embassy in Israel vis-a-vis the Palestinian Authority", which has limited powers in urban areas of the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

"There is a price for anti-Israel behaviour," Mr.

Israel Katz

Katz added in a statement, citing Norway's recent recognition of a Palestinian state and backing of a pending International Criminal Court case implicating Israeli leaders in alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

Norway accused the hard-right government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of adopting an "extreme" response.

"This is an extreme action that first and foremost affects our ability to help the Palestinian population", Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide said in a statement.

"Today's decision will have consequences for our relationship with the Netanyahu government," he added.

Mr. Barth Eide later called in Israeli charge d'affaires Yana Kotlyar-Gal to hear a formal protest.

The Palestinian Authority accused Israel of resorting to "baseless pretexts" to put pressure on any government that tries to halt "violations against our people".

A statement from its Foreign Ministry expressed "condemnation and strong disapproval of the decision by the [Israeli] occupation authorities to restrict the work of Norwegian diplomats operating in the occupied State of Palestine, including Jerusalem".

Russia battles Ukrainian troops for third day after major incursion in Kursk region

Reuters
MOSCOW

Russian forces were battling Ukrainian troops for a third day on Thursday after they smashed through the Russian border in the Kursk region, an audacious attack on the world's biggest nuclear power that has forced Moscow to call in reserves.

In one of the biggest Ukrainian attacks on Russia of the two-year war, around 1,000 Ukrainian troops rammed through the Russian border in the early hours of August 6 with tanks and armoured vehicles, covered in the air by swarms of drones and pounding artillery, according to Russian officials.

Ukrainian forces swept through the fields and forests of the border towards the north of the border town of Sudzha, the last operational trans-shipping point for Russian natural gas to Europe via Ukraine.

President Vladimir Putin cast the attack as a "major provocation". The White House said the United States – Ukraine's biggest backer – had no prior knowledge of the attack and would seek more details from Kyiv.

It is one of the biggest Ukrainian attacks on Russia of the two-year war that started in 2022

Russia's most senior general, chief of general staff Valery Gerasimov, told Mr. Putin on Wednesday that the Ukrainian offensive had been halted in the border area.

Russia's Defence Ministry said Ukraine had lost 82 armoured vehicles including eight tanks in the attack. The Ukrainian Army has remained silent on the Kursk offensive.

Russia's National Guard said it had beefed up security around the Kursk nuclear power station.

Starmer says no 'let up' in moves to stop far-right riots; to chair meet with police

Agence France-Presse
SOLIHULL

U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer vowed on Thursday not to ease up efforts to stop further far-right riots in English towns and cities, after more anticipated street violence failed to materialise overnight.

The U.K. leader said despite a largely peaceful Wednesday evening, he would chair another emergency meeting of senior ministers and police leaders later on Thursday to plan for potential trouble in "the coming days".

Keir Starmer

He also noted the criminal justice system would continue "working speedily" to convict those already arrested during a week of near nightly riots across England and in Northern Ireland. It came as a judge in Liverpool, northeast England, jailed several more participants in the violence, which has seen mosques and migrant-related facilities attacked alongside police and other targets.

"It's important that we don't let up here," Mr. Starmer told media outlets as he visited a mosque and met community leaders in Solihull, western England.

6,000 personnel

Mr. Starmer credited "police deployed in numbers in the right places, giving reassurance to communities" with helping to ease the unrest overnight.

The U.K. government had put 6,000 specialist police on standby across England to deal with scores of potential flashpoints.

IS suspect planned hit at Taylor Swift event: officials

Agence France-Presse
VIENNA

A 19-year-old Islamic State sympathiser planned a suicide attack at a Taylor Swift concert in Vienna designed to kill many people, the country's intelligence agency said on Thursday.

Austrian authorities detained two suspects on Wednesday for allegedly plotting to attack this week's Vienna concerts by the U.S. star, which organisers cancelled at the last minute.

The 19-year-old main suspect had confessed, saying he "intended to carry out an attack using explosives and knives," domestic intelligence agency (DSN) head Omar Haijawi-Pirchner said. Explosives and detonators were found in a search of the main suspect's apartment.

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Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed Terms & conditions are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from website : www.tnpl.com

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Trivandrum Technopark
D3/478/2024/I&PRD

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An Autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

Short advertisement for recruitment of faculty position on direct recruitment

No: IISERBPR/DOFA/2024/2 Dated :08.08.2024

Opening date for submission of application: 1000 hrs. of August 12, 2024
Closing date of submission of application: 1700 hrs. of September 11, 2024
Crucial date for calculation of age/qualification/experience: September 11, 2024

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Berhampur is a premier autonomous Institution of National Importance established by the Ministry of Education (MoE), Govt. of India (GoI) for promotion of high-quality science education and research in the country. IISER Berhampur was set up as the 7th IISER by Govt. of India in 2016 under NITSER Act, 2007.
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S. No.	Position	Department	Vacancy with category	Area of Specialization
1	Professor	Chemical Sciences	01 (UR)	Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Bio-organic Chemistry
2	Assistant Professor-G-1	Earth & Environmental Sciences **	02 (UR-1, SC-1)	Environmental Chemistry, Hydrogeology, Geochemistry, Structural Geology, Economic Geology
3	Assistant Professor-G-1	Computer Sciences	01 (OBC(NCL)	Environmental Chemistry, Hydrogeology, Geochemistry, Structural Geology, Economic Geology
4	Assistant Professor-G-1	Biological Sciences	01 (ST)	Immunology, Ecological Sciences, Structural Biology, Animal Physiology, Neuro Biology.

** Applicants who have Ph.D. in Geological Sciences or PhD in Chemistry and related areas having appropriate experience may apply for environmental chemistry specialization.
Horizontal reservation of prescribed 4% for PwBD candidates as per the relevant Act & instructions of the Govt. of India as applicable are to be made.

Note: Please visit Institute website www.iiserbpr.ac.in for submission of application and full text of the advertisement for all other details regarding educational qualification, experiences and other eligibility criteria. The detail advertisement as posted on our website will regulate the recruitment of the above posts.
Registrar

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Tender No : SE/PHC/KKD/21/2024-25 AMRUT - 2.0 - Kozhikode Water Supply Project - Augmentation of 174 MLD to 210 MLD of Peruvannamuzhi Water Treatment Plant (Extension Phase - II) and associated work including reinstatement of SCADA system - General Civil Work, EMD : Rs. 500000, Tender Fee : Rs. 16540 + (2978) GST, Last Date for Submitting Tender : 09-09-2024, 04:00 pm, Phone : 0495 - 2371046.
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-371-2024-25 PH Circle, Kozhikode

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Tender No.	Scope of work	Due date
242513 002653	Supply, Erection and Commissioning of Wet Lime Based Flue Gas Desulphurisation System for 1 X 125 TPH AFBC Boiler under RSPS#2 at TNPL Unit - I.	09.09.2024
242513 002591	TNPL Copier A4-70 GSM & A4-80 GSM 10 Reams Carton Lid and Tray	22.08.2024
242513 002592	Procurement of Sodium Sulphate for Unit - I	22.08.2024
242513 002608	Procurement of CS Pipe, Sorf Flanges & Elbows.	22.08.2024
242523 001640	Cross Linker for Board Machine (CCK) of TNPL Unit - II.	26.08.2024
242523 001641	ASA Sizing Chemical for Board Machine (CCK) of TNPL Unit - II.	27.08.2024
242523 001642	To Run Oxidizing Biocide Program including boilout on package cost basis for Board machine (CCK) of TNPL Unit - II.	24.08.2024
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E-TENDER FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS ARE INVITED:-

NIT No.: CE(P)/WBSETCL/50 & 80 MVA Trf./24-25/06 Date: 09.08.2024	Procurement of 50 MVA & 80 MVA Power Transformers.
NIT No.: CE(P)/WBSETCL/132kV Isolator/ 24-25/07 Date: 09.08.2024	Procurement of 132 kV Isolator of different ratings.

Bid documents can be downloaded from 09.08.2024, 03:00 P.M. and bids shall be submitted online up to 04:00 P.M., 06.09.2024. Visit the following websites:- www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbsetcl.in for details. ICA- T13603(3)/2024

TEAMWORK

Building trust was the No. 1 thing we relied on, says coach Fulton

GETTY IMAGES

Coach Craig Fulton said building trust was the key while moulding the Indian hockey team. "We needed to build trust because that's the number one thing you can rely on. We did a good job in the Asian Games (winning the gold medal and qualifying for the Olympics) to start that process," said the coach.

THE TRIGGER

'Winning with 10 players in the quarterfinal the proudest moment'

RITU RAJ KONWAR

Craig Fulton rated 10-man India's quarterfinal win over Great Britain highly. "We were really ready for whatever was coming our way, and it showed. That was one of the proudest moments I've had on the hockey field... to try and get guys through 43 minutes (after Amit Rohidas' suspension) and win a quarterfinal with so much at stake."

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

HI chief Tirkey attributes bronze show to hard work and patience

X@HOCKEY INDIA

Hockey India president and former defender Dilip Tirkey said the win was the outcome of years of hard work and patience. "Tears of joy! Our Indian hockey heroes have done it again! Winning the bronze medal in Paris is more than just a victory, it's a testament to their unwavering dedication, perseverance & passion!"

KEY PLAYER

Lakshya says Sreejesh has been the backbone of the champion team

X@LAKSHYA SEN

Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen specially praised goalkeeper Sreejesh for his show. "Bronze it is! Huge congratulations to the Indian Hockey Team. A special shoutout to *@16Sreejesh* bhaiya our incredible goalkeeper on your retirement day. You've been the backbone of the team, and your saves will be remembered forever."

India underlines elite status with podium finish again

Harmanpreet leads the way with two goals as he and his men — the determination and skills of the defenders standing out again — rally to pip a never-say-die Spain in the bronze medal contest

Red-letter day: India secured back-to-back Olympic medals in hockey for the first time since Munich 1972 and it was every bit deserved given its gritty show. GETTY IMAGES

PARIS 2024

Y.B. Sarangi
PARIS

India broke a four-decade long jinx in Tokyo. And, after three years, it emphatically underscored its status as an elite outfit in world hockey by securing its second consecutive bronze medal in the Paris Olympics at the historic Yves du Manoir Stadium here on Thursday.

In captivating action under the hot afternoon sun, India – which switched to coach Craig Fulton only three months prior to the Asian Games last year and adapted quickly to a defence-first style – rallied to pip a never-say-die Spain 2-1 in the bronze medal match. It last won back-to-back Olympic medals way back in Munich, 1972.

India's fourth bronze and 13th Olympic medal was a fitting farewell for P.R. Sreejesh, who closed his glorious two-decade long international career.

With the midfielders staying busy and creating moves, the two teams tested each other's defence and came out unscathed in the opening quarter.

However, the action-packed second period saw Spain draw first blood when Pepe Clapes was tackled inside the Indian circle resulting in a penalty stroke. Captain Marc Miralles shot to the top right corner to beat Sreejesh thoroughly.

Spain earned three penalty corners, but India rode on rusher Amit Rohidas' return to keep its post safe. Spain nearly doubled its lead when Clapes sent in a cross from the left but Borja Lacalle could not connect.

Following some end-to-end action, India regained control to secure two short corners and Harmanpreet's fast and low drag-flick helped draw parity at the stroke of half-time.

Harmanpreet's brilliant penalty corner conversion in the penultimate quarter fetched India its winner. The drag-flicker delayed his shot a bit and used his wrists to find a hole in the Spaniard defence, on goalkeeper Luis Calzado's right, along the carpet.

On several instances the Indians exhibited beautiful coordination to pick up three more short corners, while Spain got two.

The Indian defenders' composed approach not only helped the team win key moments but also save plenty of penalty corners.

Spain removed its keeper Calzado with three minutes left and the team got four successive shot corners in the 59th minute, but the determination and skills of its defenders, under the leadership of the valiant Sreejesh, made the Indian wall impregnable.

The result:
India 2 (Harmanpreet 30-pc, 33-pc) bt Spain 1 (Miralles 18-ps).

Euphoric: India's second successive bronze at the Olympics has given the sports aficionados plenty to cheer about.
RITU RAJ KONWAR

India's hockey medals at the Olympics

Gold	Amsterdam, 1928
Gold	Los Angeles, 1932
Gold	Berlin, 1936
Gold	London, 1948
Gold	Helsinki, 1952
Gold	Melbourne, 1956
Silver	Rome, 1960
Gold	Tokyo, 1964
Bronze	Mexico, 1968
Bronze	Munich, 1972
Gold	Moscow, 1980
Bronze	Tokyo, 2021
Bronze	**Paris, 2024**

Sreejesh walks into the sunset in glorious style

Y.B. Sarangi
PARIS

Paying obeisance: Sreejesh spends one last moment between the posts which he called home for 24 years. PTI

In Tokyo, goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh perched himself on top of the goalpost after India broke a 41-year-old medal drought by securing a bronze. In Paris, he prostrated in front of the post, which he protected and abused with equal passion, before recreating the Tokyo moment after India won the bronze again to bring the curtain down on his unparalleled two-decade-old international career.

On Thursday, as the 36-year-old Sreejesh – a veteran of 330 international caps – paid obeisance to the sport he so dearly loves, it brought back memories of Sachin Tendulkar bowing to the pitch at the Wankhede Stadium 11 years ago.

The Indian team was successful in its 'win it for Sreejesh' campaign to make the stalwart's last dance a memorable one.

"One piece of advice that I got is from one of my coaches. He said, 'Sree, when you retire, people should not say, 'Why not?' They should ask you 'Why.' And I think I made some mistakes with that. Everyone is asking me, 'Why not?' And I think this is the right time to take that call," said Sreejesh.

Captain Harmanpreet found it difficult to say goodbye to the legend. "I would like to say a big thank you to him because he gave everything for the team. We love him so much. He's staying with us only. Here (showing his heart) only."

Hailing from a non-hockey state Kerala, Sreejesh became a superstar because of his dedication to the sport. He has seen it all. From the lowest phase, when India failed to qualify for the Olympics in 2008 for the only time, to its gradual rise from losing all its matches in 2012 to reaching the quarterfinals in 2016 and then to medalling in 2020.

From a youngster to being the senior most in the side, Sreejesh fondly remembered how he mellowed down over the years. "I used to be an aggressive goalkeeper. I used a lot of abuse to activate my players.

"Then I started talking to my goalposts. All of those abuses went to the goalposts. Before this, goalposts used to be my good friend, my emotional partner."

Before his last outing, Sreejesh was emotional while walking up to his post. "It was my home for the last 24 years. I never lived life outside that ground. I just wanted to recall all the memories."

Players who turned a billion dreams into reality

Star cast: Coach Fulton has worked wonders with the Indian team. PTI

The eclectic mix of players who powered India, along with coach Craig Fulton, in Paris:

Goalkeeper: P.R. Sreejesh (Matches: 336)
He hails from Kizhakkambalam village in Kochi (Kerala) and has 17 international medals in his cabinet.

Defender: Jarmanpreet Singh (M: 114)
Born in Amritsar, Paris 2024 was his debut Olympics. He was part of the 2016 junior World Cup-winning team.

Defender: Amit Rohidas (M: 191)
A native of Sundergarh in Odisha, Rohidas is a vital cog in the backline and the first rusher during penalty corners.

Defender: Harmanpreet Singh (M: 227)
Hailing from Amritsar, the skipper, defender and penalty corner specialist is regarded as one of the best drag-flickers in the world. He proved it in Paris, scoring 10 goals — seven from penalty corners.

Defender: Sumit Walmiki (M: 142)
The Sonipat-born player made his first senior appearance at the 2017 Sultan Azlan Shah Cup.

Defender: Sanjay (M: 43)
The player from Dabra village near Hisar in Haryana is one of the drag-flickers in the team.

Midfielder: Rajkumar Pal (M: 62)
A native of Karampur village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh, he made his debut in February 2020.

Midfielder: Shamsher Singh (M: 103)
Born in Attari village in Amritsar, he first appeared for India in the 2019 Ready Steady tournament in Tokyo.

Midfielder: Manpreet Singh (M: 378)
Hailing from Mithapur village in Jalandhar (Punjab), he is one of the most experienced members in the squad. He started his senior India journey at the age of 19.

Midfielder: Hardik Singh (M: 142)
Trained by his uncle and former India drag-flicker Jugraj Singh, his debut came in the 2018 Asian Champions Trophy. He hails from the Khusropur village of Jalandhar district.

Midfielder: Vivek Sagar Prasad (M: 151)
The player from Itarsi, Madhya Pradesh, played an important part in the bronze medal-winning campaign at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Forward: Abhishek (M: 82)
In Paris, the player from Sonipat scored a goal each against Belgium and Australia in the group games and played a big role in the tournament.

Forward: Sukhjeet Singh (M: 78)
The player, who hails from Jawandpur village of Taran Taran district in Punjab, found the second equaliser during the 3-2 loss to Germany in the semifinals.

Forward: Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (M: 176)
The Varanasi-born player, one of the most experienced players in the squad, also featured in the Tokyo Olympics.

Forward: Mandeep Singh (M: 252)
In Paris, the Jalandhar-born Mandeep scored the team's first goal during the 3-2 win over New Zealand in the opening group match.

Forward: Gurjant Singh (M: 124)
Yet another player from Amritsar, he was instrumental in India finishing on top in the 2018 and 2023 Asian Champions Trophy.

— Compiled by Nihit Sachdeva

A triumph of skill and perseverance

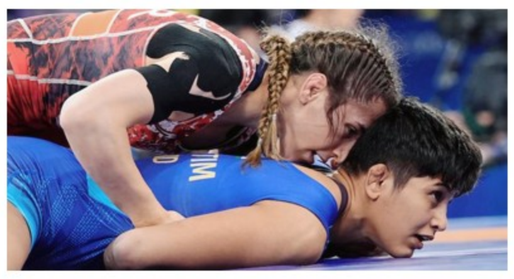
It is after over five decades that India has won bronze medals in back-to-back Olympic Games. The team deserves the highest praise for the resurgence of Indian hockey. The consistency, skills, cohesion and fighting spirit shown by this team will inspire our youth
PRESIDENT DROUPADI MURMU

This is a feat that will be cherished for generations to come. Their success is a triumph of skill, perseverance and team spirit. Every Indian has an emotional connect with hockey and this accomplishment will make the sport even more popular among the youth of our nation
PM NARENDRA MODI

The Indian men's hockey team, with courage etched in every stride, has brought home a bronze that shines with the brilliance of gold. To each of you who donned the tri-colour with pride, thank you for giving us a moment that will echo in our hearts for generations
ABHINAV BINDRA

Indeed a historic and a very, very special moment for India. It is also a deeply emotional moment for me personally. May this bring back the halcyon days for hockey, bringing more and more laurels for the country
NAVEEN PATNAIK

INBRIEF



Wrestler Antim sent home after disciplinary breach

Indian wrestler Antim Panghal is returning home from the Paris Olympic Games following a disciplinary breach, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has said. The IOA did not give any details but the Indian media reported that Panghal's sister had tried to enter the Games Village using her accreditation.

Australia's Nina Kennedy wins women's pole vault

World champion Nina Kennedy won the women's Olympic pole vault gold on Wednesday. The Australian cleared 4.90m. American Katie Moon, the defending champion, clinched the silver medal on countback from Alysha Newman of Canada after both manged 4.85m.

THE INDIA SHOW

A look at some of the Indian performances:

Thursday: **Athletics:** Men's 3000m steeplechase (final): 11. Avinash Sable; Women's 100m hurdles (repechage): Jyothi (fourth in heat 1, 16th overall), DNQ for semifinal.

Golf: Women's Individual Stroke Play (round 2): Diksha and Aditi (both T14).

Hockey: Men (bronze medal match): bt Spain 2-1.

Wrestling: Freestyle 57kg: Men: Semifinal: Aman lost to Higuchi (Jpn) 0-10; 1/4 final: bt Abakarov (Alb) 12-0; 1/8 final: bt Egorov (Mkd) 10-0; Women: 1/8 final: Anshu lost to Maroulis (USA) 2-7.

Wednesday: Weightlifting: Women's 49kg: 4. Mirabai.

INDIANS IN ACTION

A look at some Indians who will compete on Friday (all times IST):

Athletics: Women's 4x400m relay (round 1), 2.10 p.m.; Men's 4x400m relay (round 1), 2.35 p.m.

Golf: Women's Individual Stroke Play: Round 3 (Aditi, Diksha), 12.30 p.m.

Wrestling: Men's freestyle (57kg): Bronze medal match: Aman vs. Cruz (Pur), 9.45 p.m.

GOLDIES

Nina Kennedy (Aus): *Women's Pole Vault*
Roje Stona (Jam): *Men's Discus*
Soufiane El Bakkali (Mar): *Men's 3000m Steeplechase*
Oleksandr Khyzhniak (Ukr): *Boxing Men's 80kg*
Erislandy Alvarez (Cub): *Boxing Men's 63.5kg*
Ruggero Tita & Caterina Banti (Ita): *Sailing Mixed Multihull*
Lara Vadlau & Lukas Maehr (Aut): *Sailing Mixed Dinghy*
Panipak Wongpattanakit (Tha): *Taekwondo Women's -49kg*
Park Tae-joon (Kor): *Taekwondo Men's -58kg*
Hou Zhihui (Chn): *Weightlifting Women's 49kg*
Sarah Ann Hildebrandt (USA): *Wrestling Women's Freestyle 50kg*
Sharon van Rouwendaal (Ned): *Marathon Swimming Women's 10km*
Veddriq Leonardo (Ina): *Sport Climbing Men's Speed*
Liu Hao & Ji Bowen (Chn): *Men's Canoe Double 500m*
New Zealand: *Women's Kayak Four 500m*
Germany: *Men's Kayak Four 500m*
Xie Siyi (Chn): *Diving Men's 3m Springboard*
Luo Shifang (Chn): *Weightlifting Women's 59kg*
Eleanor Aldridge (GBr): *Sailing Women's Kite*
Ellesse Andrews (NZl): *Cycling Track Women's Keirin*
Saeid Esmaeili (Iri): *Men's Greco-Roman 67kg*
Benjamin Thomas (Fra): *Cycling Track Men's Omnium*
Semen Novikov (Bul): *Wrestling Men's Greco-Roman 87kg*
Netherlands: *Hockey Men*
Letsile Tebogo (Bot): *Men's 200m*
Tara Davis-Woodhall (USA): *Women's long jump*
Arshad Nadeem (Pak): *Men's Javelin*
Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (USA): *Women's 400m Hurdles*

GOING FOR GOLD

Athletics: Women's 4 x 100m Relay, Women's Shot Put, Men's 4 x 100m Relay, Women's 400m, Men's Triple Jump, Women's Heptathlon, Women's 10,000m, Men's 400m Hurdles
Beach Volleyball: Women
Boxing: Men's 71kg, Women's 50kg, Men's 92kg, Women's 66kg
Breaking: B-Girls Finals
Canoe Sprint: Women's Canoe Double 500m, Women's & Men's Kayak Double 500m, Men's Canoe Single 1000m
Cycling Track: Women's Madison, Men's Sprint
Diving: Women's 3m Springboard
Football: Men
Hockey: Women
Marathon Swimming: Men's 10km
Rhythmic Gymnastics: Individual All-Around
Sport Climbing: Men's Boulder & Lead, Final Lead
Table Tennis: Men's Team
Taekwondo: Women -67kg, Men's 80kg
Weightlifting: Men's 89kg, Women's 71kg
Wrestling: Men's Freestyle 57kg, Men's Freestyle 86kg, Women's Freestyle 57kg

Monster throw: Arshad gave Pakistan its first Olympic gold in 40 years with a humongous effort in his second attempt leaving Neeraj and others playing catch up. AP, GETTY IMAGES

Arshad's 92.97m dethrones Neeraj

The Pakistani's second throw breaches the Olympic mark; the Indian's only legal throw of 89.45 earns him a silver medal

The only one: Neeraj's silver was the first for India in Paris. RITU RAJ KONWAR

PARIS 2024

ATHLETICS

Jonathan Selvaraj
PARIS

To be the man, you got to beat the man.

Arshad Nadeem of Pakistan just beat the man.

At the Stade de France on Thursday night, he beat him as comprehensively as possible. On the sixth opportunity he finally got the better of the man he'd always considered a role model and looked up to.

He beat India's reigning Olympic and world champion Neeraj Chopra and it took an all time great Olympic performance to do it.

He bettered an Olympic record that had stood for 16 years, not once but twice. The first – a throw of 92.97m in his second throw of the competition ended it. The second of 91.79m in his final attempt put the final exclamation mark on a near flawless performance.

Fighting hard

Neeraj fought as hard as he could. He pushed himself harder than he ever had this season. In the qualification round he produced his biggest throw of the season. He improved on that in his second throw of the final. 89.45m. It was the second best throw of his career. It wasn't enough.

It says something of kind of confidence that Neeraj generates with his achievement that a silver medal – the best for the country in Paris – seems like like an underachievement.

It is anything but. It took Neeraj pushing himself to his absolute best to even kept him on the podium.

Incredible standard

This was an incredible standard of competition. Julius Yego took fifth place here with a throw of 87.70 – it would have won gold in Tokyo.

While India Pakistan rivalries always carry a hint of tension, there is anything but in this one.

Arshad makes it a point to take a picture with Neeraj before every competition they take part in together.

Arshad had said last year after he took silver at the World Championship behind Neeraj that he wanted to see India and Pakistan finish 1-2 at the Olympics too.

Neeraj and Arshad did just that. But the order of medals was reversed.

Courtesy call: Bindra meets Vinesh in Paris. PTI

Vinesh gives up the fight and retires

Agencies
NEW DELHI

India's heartbroken Vinesh Phogat on Thursday announced her retirement from wrestling, a day after being disqualified from the women's 50kg competition at the Paris Olympics for being overweight for the final.

"Mother wrestling won against me, I lost. Your dreams and my courage are shattered," Vinesh wrote on social media platform X.

"I don't have any more strength now. Goodbye wrestling 2001-2024. I will forever be indebted to you all. Sorry."

"You will always remain a winner for us," Bajrang Punia, a fellow wrestler and a Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist, said on social media.

"Apart from being India's daughter, you are the pride of India."

Olympic bronze-medallist, Sakshi Malik, said "every daughter has lost for whom you fought and won".

Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Sanjay Singh on Thursday urged Vinesh to not take decisions in "a sad state of mind".

"I got to know about her retirement through social media and I am also shocked to learn she decided to retire on her own," Sanjay Singh told PTI Video.

"So I would urge her on behalf of the WFI to not make decisions in a sad state of mind and make a rational decision once she has recovered from the debacle mentally. We will also talk to her."

Sehrawat to battle for a bronze medal

WRESTLING

Press Trust of India
PARIS

Young Indian grappler Aman Sehrawat lost to Japanese top-seed Rei Higuchi in the 57kg freestyle semifinal bout as the country's hopes of winning a gold from wrestling evaporated here on Thursday. The 21-year-old Aman will now play for the bronze medal.

Aman, who had raised hopes of securing a place in the final following two big victories against celebrated opponents in the earlier rounds, was no match for the 28-year-old Higuchi as the Japanese toyed with the Indian to stamp his technical superiority with a 10-0 win in just over two minutes.

Earlier, Aman demolished former World champion Zelimkhan Abakarov of Albania by technical superiority to seal a place in the last four.

Aman was in imperious form as he toyed with Abakarov in the second round to secure a 12-0 victory.

Aman's pre-quarterfinal round was also a cakewalk as he ensured an easy passage into the last-eight stage with a dominating 10-0 performance against North Macedonian rival Vladimir Egorov.

Dominant: Sehrawat turned Abakarov over multiple times to earn eight straight points in the quarterfinals. REUTERS

Anshu misses out

Anshu Malik could not breach the defence of USA's Helen Louise Maroulis, losing 2-7 in the 57kg pre-quarterfinals. Anshu's hopes of qualifying for the bronze-medal bout did not fructify as Helen lost her semifinal.

Medals table

	Country	G	S	B	T
1	China	28	25	18	71
2	USA	27	36	34	97
3	Australia	18	14	11	43
4	France	14	18	21	53
5	Great Britain	13	17	21	51
6	Korea	12	8	7	27
7	Japan	12	7	13	32
8	Netherlands	11	6	7	24
9	Italy	10	11	9	30
10	Germany	9	7	5	21
63	**India**	**0**	**1**	**4**	**5**

Mirabai finishes agonisingly close in fourth

WEIGHTLIFTING

Y.B. Sarangi
PARIS

Mirabai Chanu's courageous push for a second consecutive Olympics weightlifting medal ended on a disappointing note as she finished fourth with an aggregate of 199kg here on Wednesday. With a clear target of securing a 200kg-plus total to assure herself a medal, the Indian missed a podium finish by one kg.

Mirabai matched her best snatch effort of 88kg in her third attempt. She recorded a clean and jerk of 111kg in her fifth, while her final effort for 114kg, in order to ensure a medal, did not succeed.

Because of her lower body weight, the Indian could have got a bronze medal even with a successful clean and jerk attempt of 112kg and tying on a total of 200kg with Thailand's Sudorchana Khambao.

China's Hou Zhihui overcame a strong challenge from Mihaela Cambei to defend her title with an aggregate of 206kg, including an Olympic clean and jerk record of 117kg.

Mihaela totalled 205kg, consisting of 93kg in snatch. Sudorchana's 200kg included 88kg in snatch.

Heavy heart: Mirabai will rue missing a bronze by a mere 1kg. RITU RAJ KONWAR

INBRIEF

Rafael Nadal not to compete at the US Open

Rafael Nadal, the 22-time Grand Slam champion, will not compete in the US Open, he said on Wednesday, with the 38-year-old Spaniard adding he did not feel he could perform at his best. "I don't think I would be able to give my 100% this time," Nadal posted on *X*. A four-time US Open champion, Nadal said his next event would be at next month's Laver Cup in Berlin. Missing out on the US Open will mark his sixth absence in the past seven Grand Slam tournaments, the lone exception being his first-round ouster at this year's French Open.

Arjun & Ramkumar make last-four stage

Arjun Kadhe and Ramkumar Ramanathan defeated Andrea Picchione and Giorgio Ricca of Italy 6-4, 6-3 in the doubles quarterfinals of the €74,825 Challenger tennis tournament at Cordenons (Italy).

Other important results:

$25,000 ITF men, Brazzaville, Congo: Pre-quarterfinals: Dev Javia bt Eric Vanshelboim (Ukr) 6-2, 6-3; Adil Kalyanpur bt Aayush Bhat (USA) 6-3, 7-5; Karan Singh bt Raghav Jaisinghani 6-4, 6-7(3), 6-0; Bor Artnak (Slo) bt Aditya Balsekar 6-0, 6-0; S.D. Prajwal Dev bt Rishi Reddy 6-3, 7-6(3); Yuvan Nandal bt Rishab Agarwal 7-6(6), 7-5.
Doubles, quarterfinals: S.D. Prajwal Dev & Adil Kalyanpur bt Julian DeSousa & Vincent Hobert (Ned) 6-2, 6-3.
$25,000 ITF men, Taipei: Pre-quarterfinals: S. Mukund bt Taiyo Yamanaka (Jpn) 6-1, 6-3; **Doubles, quarterfinals:** Sai Karteek Reddy & Wishaya Trongcharoenchaikul (Tha) bt Mitsuki Leong (Mas) & Stefanos Sakellardis (Gre) 6-4, 6-4.
$15,000 ITF men: Doubles, quarterfinals: Chirag Duhan & Shinji Hazawa (Jpn) bt Mohamed Makhlouf (Alg) & Savva Polukhin 6-2, 7-5.

I don't think we put them under pressure, says Rohit

"Although, when you are playing on such challenging pitches, it is important to have consistency in team selection... it has been a poor series for us," said the losing captain

INDIA IN SRI LANKA

S. Dipak Ragav
COLOMBO

Stumped! Riyan Parag is left bewildered as Jeffrey Vandersay bowls him out. PTI

India captain Rohit Sharma hinted that his team would not be afraid to make personnel changes, if necessary, to ensure the team stays competitive in all conditions following India's 2-0 loss to Sri Lanka in the three-match one-day series that concluded on Wednesday.

It was the Men in Blue's first bilateral ODI series loss against the Lankans in 27 years, and the batters' inability to play on the spinning pitches at R. Premadasa Stadium cost the visitor the series.

"Somewhere, we need to think about what we can do and which players should be given opportunities on such wickets," said the ace batter after the match.

"Although, when you are playing on such challenging pitches, it is important to have consistency in team selection. If you give players only one or two opportunities, it isn't easy to manage such situations. It has been a poor series for us.

"We need to be clear about how we want to play and keep the momentum towards us while playing on pitches like these," he added, indicating that a review of what needs to be done will be conducted.

"We have to talk about it and let the players know what we want. If we have to be a little different in choosing the personnel, we have to do that, unfortunately. We will try to see how we can be a good team in all conditions, not just on good or seaming pitches, but also on pitches that turn a bit."

The skipper also expressed disappointment at his side's conservative approach against the home team's spinners, who scalped 27 of the 30 wickets in the three matches.

"I don't think we were brave enough throughout the series to put them under pressure. On these slow pitches where some balls are turning and some are not, you have to go in with a game plan. At the same time, you also need to play your shots. If you think you will defend all six balls, it may not be possible," Rohit explained.

The 37-year-old was the only Indian batter amongst runs, scoring two half-centuries and spoke about what the batters need to do to succeed on such pitches.

"It comes down to individual plans. If the pitch suits your plan, take it on. If it isn't, then what are the options?

"Come down the track, push for singles and follow the basics of batsmanship on slow surfaces. We have grown up on slow pitches. It is about having a plan and believing that is good enough to come out on top on pitches like that."

He also contrasted Sri Lanka's approach to the conditions and said there were things that India could have learned from it.

"They were consistent with sweeps, taking their chances and piercing that deep square-leg and deep-midwicket field.

"That is something we failed to do. We didn't play enough sweeps, reverse sweeps or paddle, and didn't use our feet much. That was the difference," said Rohit.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Arya and Nitish star for Max Muller High School

Arya J. Gowda (5/51 & 5/37) and Nitish Arya (212 n.o.) helped Max Muller High School register a thumping innings-and-137-run victory over Carmel HS in the KM Ramprasad Shield U-16 first division tournament.

The scores: Carmel HS 114 in 49.1 overs (H.S. Likith Gowda 32, Arya J. Gowda 5/51) & 69 in 20.5 overs (Arya J. Gowda 5/37, Avaneesh Poonacha 3/23) lost to Max Muller HS 320/5 decl. in 45 overs (Nitish Arya 212 n.o., M.S. Kunal 37).

Sri Kumaran Children's Home, CBSE 221 in 75.2 overs (Dhruv Modhe 60, M. Tejas 29, Abhinav Nag 29, Anirudh Mukherjee 28, Chippagiri Rishith Reddy 5/52) drew with DPS, North 260/6 in 56.3 overs (Pranav Kedlaya 131, Udgeet S. Nandan 66).

Vidyashilp Academy 85 in 50.1 overs (Khush Kothari 30, H. Nihal 4/29, Mohammad Rayan 5/33) drew with Holy Saint Eng School 173/3 in 48 overs (Chilukuri Akhil Subhash 30, G. Vakula Chandra 32, Krushna V. Rao 33 n.o. K. Akhil 44 n.o.).

DPS, South 145 in 61 overs (Syaamantak Anirudh 33, Dhruv Santhosh Rao 34, Aakash Suresh 25, Arush Jain 6/32, Adhrit Rao 3/9) drew with DPS, East 204/6 in 61.1 overs (Adhrit Rao 56, Arjun Aravind Potti 48, R. Nithin 46 n.o.).

Jain Heritage School 365 in 72 overs (Aditya Jha 76, Arnav Anil 45, S. Leshan 70, J.N. Daksh 56, Arindam Kumar Sharma 46, M. Sanjay 5/85, Chandan Harish 3/40) & 79 for one in 18 overs (Krrish Iyer 27) drew with St. Joseph's IHS 281 in 73.4 overs (G. Pranav 84, H.D. Prajwal Gowda 30, Chandan Harish 83, S. Leshan 3/86, Aaryansinh Chavda 3/56).

BGS NPS, Hulimavu 151 in 64.3 overs (Arnav Gurudatta Mewundi 26, Suhaan Bhandary 4/33) & 92 in 42.2 overs (Harikrishna Bhat 27, G.K. Saivarun 3/13) lost to Gopalan National School 287/4 decl. in 56 overs (Vidhan Loyalka 67, Idhaant Kumar Sinha 51, G.K. Saivarun 77 n.o., Raghav Aggarwal 37 n.o.).

II div.: MES Kishore Kendra 32 in 21.1 overs (Preetham Nanda Kumar 3/7, V. Sumukha 3/3) lost to Vidyaniketan Public School, Ullal 33 for no loss in five overs.

NPS, B-10 61 in 25.3 overs (Aaryan Nagesh 4/14) lost to Presidency School, RT Nagar 62/2 in 6.5 overs.

Carmel HS 208/9 in 34 overs (Daniel James 31, G.S. Monish Gowda 54, K.H. Adithya 36, Preet R. Jain 30, Sanjeev B. Puranik 5/47) bt Sri Kumaran Children's Home 48 in 22.1 overs (Preet R. Jain 3/14, Amogh Morabad 5/5) [Match reduced to 34 overs per side because of wet outfield].

The Cathedral HS 78 in 27.3 overs (Dhruvesh 4/14) lost to Kensri School 82/6 in 17.2 overs.

The Sports School 242 in 48.2 overs (Athreya Bhat 31, Devanjan Sarkar 38, Rudransh 31, Shreyas Indian 31, Siddharth Sriram 3/52) bt Deva Matha Central School 67 in 30 overs (Shreyas Indian 4/25).

Presidency School, Nandini Layout 122 in 37.1 overs (Nakka Manvesh Vasu 3/30) lost to Frank Anthony PS 123/5 in 23.1 overs (S. Rishi Harivatsa 44).

Easy win for Vidyashilp Academy

Vidyashilp Academy blanked Frank Anthony Public School 4-0 in the SJBHS inter-school hockey tournament here on Thursday.

The results: Centenary Shield (U-17): St. Joseph's BHS 2 (Joel Paul 22, 36) bt Chinmaya Vidyalaya 1 (M.D. Gouse 6); Vidyashilp Academy 4 (Shikarjeeth Singh 8, Neil Chouhan 16, Ekansh Sharma 18, Pranith M. Gadia 32) bt Frank Anthony Public School 0.

Fr. Eric Vaz Memorial (U-14): Chinmaya Vidyalaya 3 (Hemanth 1, 10, Sachiroop 37) bt Vidyashilp Academy 1 (Arrush Malik 25).

Vijayadeva in the limelight in Adhiyamaan's big win

Vijayadeva scored four goals as Adhiyamaan College of Engineering thrashed Germanite HA 6-1 in the KSHA D.S. Murthy Memorial hockey tournament here on Thursday.

The result: Adhiyamaan College of Engg 6 (Vijayadeva 4, 15, 20, 23, Suriya 39, 48) bt Germanite HA 1 (Mike 37); Gameon HC 2 (Lokesh 11, 36) bt Blue Star HC 1 (Pavan 29).

LIVE TELECAST

Olympics 2024: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 11 a.m. onwards

Football: Durand Cup, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 & 6.30 p.m.

West Indies vs South Africa: 1st Test, day 3, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

Bagan swamps IAF by half-a-dozen goals

DURAND CUP

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Easy outing: Bagan players celebrate after Thapa's strike. DEBASISH BHADURI

Mohun Bagan Super Giant overwhelmed the Indian Air Force team by half a dozen goals in its second outing of the 133rd Durand Cup, at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Thursday.

The big win helped Bagan reach the top of the Group A standings overtaking traditional rival Emami East Bengal.

The two teams are tied on six points with two wins each but Bagan has a better goal average to claim the top spot ahead of the derby clash (on August 18), which will decide the final group positions and the candidate for the quarterfinals.

Australian forward Jason Cummings scored a brace, while Anirudh Thapa, Liston Colaco and the two Scotsmen in the team, Thomas Aldred and Greg Stewart, scored one apiece.

This was the first time in the new season where Bagan fielded a major part of its first team under its Spanish head coach Jose Molina.

The results:

At Kolkata: Group A: Mohun Bagan SG 6 (Jason Cummings 4, 76, Tom Aldred 10, Liston Colaco 38, Anirudh Thapa 65, Greg Stewart 90+1) bt Indian Air Force FT 0.

At Shillong: Group F: FC Goa 2 (Lalthangliana 1, Sitroy Carvalho 50) bt Tribhuvan Army FC 1 (Basant Jimba 66).

India to host shooting WC Finals in October

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

All the Olympic medallists in shooting in the Paris Games are expected to line up for action in the season-ending World Cup Finals to be staged at the Dr. Karni Singh Range here from October 13 to 18.

The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) president Luciano Rossi allotted the prestigious event to India during a meeting of the world body at the Chateauroux in the Paris Games.

The medallists of the last World Cup Finals staged in Doha will also automatically qualify for the event. That apart, the top-six shooters in each of the 12 individual events will also make it to the World Cup Finals.

It will be the second World Cup Finals to be staged in India following the one held in 2017.

Velavan in semifinals

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

Defending champion and top seed Velavan Senthilkumar got past Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu 11-8, 11-8, 11-8 in the men's quarterfinals of the 80th HCL National squash championship on Thursday.

In the semifinals, Velavan will play Veer Chotrani, while the other semifinal will be between Mahesh Mangaonkar and Abhay Singh.

In the women's section, defending champion Anahat Singh, Nirupama Dubey, Urwashi Joshi and Akanksha Salunkhe reached the semifinals.

The results (quarterfinals):
Men: Velavan Senthilkumar bt Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu 11-8, 11-8, 11-8; Veer Chotrani bt Rahul Baitha 11-9, 11-8, 11-5; Mahesh Mangaonkar bt Suraj Chand 11-5, 11-4, 11-7; Abhay Singh bt Diwakar Singh 11-2, 11-2, 11-7.
Women: Anahat Singh bt Navya Sundararajan 11-4, 11-2, 11-3; Nirupama Dubey bt Pooja Arthi 11-7, 11-9, 12-14, 11-6; Urwashi Joshi bt Anjali Semwal 11-5, 11-4, 11-6; Akanksha Salunkhe bt Yuvna Gupta 11-6, 11-9, 11-7.

Jamari primed to deliver in Maharaja's Gold Cup

BENGALURU: Jamari, who has been well prepared is expected to score in the Maharaja's Gold Cup (2,000m), the chief event of the races to be held here on Friday (Aug. 9). False rails (width about 5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 COMMANCHE PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Lady Invictus (2) Tousif 62.5, 2. Noble Ruler (10) Koshi K 61.5, 3. Golden Starlet (6) Angad 61, 4. Benzema (3) Arshad 60.5, 5. Loving Pearl (7) R. Pradeep 60.5, 6. Mega Success (9) Jagadeesh 60, 7. Infinite Spirit (1) Faizan Khan 59.5, 8. Firefinch (5) M. Chandrashekar 58.5, 9. Meghann (8) Sai Kiran 54.5 and 10. Perfect Halo (4) R. Girish 52.5.
1. LOVING PEARL, 2. MEGA SUCCESS, 3. MEGHANN

2 LAGARDE PLATE (1,600m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. Count Basie (2) Shreyas S 56, 2. El Asesino (5) J. Chinoy 56, 3. Mescalito (4) Darshan 56, 4. Monterio (7) Sandesh 56, 5. Positano (3) Akshay K 56, 6. Santorius (8) Antony 56, 7. The Leader (6) Suraj 56 and 8. Wonderland (1) B.R. Kumar 56.
1. POSITANO, 2. THE LEADER, 3. MONTERIO

3 SOUTHERN EMPIRE PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 3-00: 1. Ebotse (6) Antony 60, 2. Asagiri (7) Vinod Shinde 58.5, 3. Cat Whiskers (3) Sandesh 58.5, 4. Smile Of Beauty (8) Akshay K 57, 5. Isabelle (5) B.R. Kumar 55, 6. Schafenberg (1) Shreyas S 54.5, 7. The Gallery Time (2) R. Pradeep 54.5 and 8. Princess Gold (4) Ikram Khan 53.
1. SMILE OF BEAUTY, 2. EBOTSE, 3. CAT WHISKERS

4 MADRAS SAPPERS TROPHY (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-30: 1. Defence Counsel (7) Tousif 56, 2. Elegant Time (5) Arvind K 56, 3. Imperial Star (2) M. Prabhakaran 56, 4. Striking Fortune (6) Vivek 56, 5. Charukala (8) Neeraj 54.5, 6. Disciple (1) Antony 54.5, 7. Glaze (9) Angad 54.5, 8. Icy Wind (4) Jagadeesh 54.5 and 9. LG's Star (3) Koshi K 54.5.
1. CHARUKALA, 2. DISCIPLE, 3. ELEGANT TIME

5 MAHARAJA'S GOLD CUP (2,000m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Touch Of Grey (4) Suraj 60, 2. Supernatural (5) J. Chinoy 59.5, 3. Jamari (2) G. Vivek 58.5, 4. Pissarro (1) Akshay K 54.5 and 5. Trevalius (3) Sandesh 53.5.
1. JAMARI, 2. SUPERNATURAL

6 A.M.C. GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 4-30: 1. Never Give In (4) Antony 60, 2. Ricardo (3) Sandesh 57.5, 3. Art Gallery (8) Akshay K 57, 4. The Athabasca (2) Sai Kiran 56.5, 5. Augusto (5) Tousif 55.5, 6. Classic Charm (7) Salman Khan 55.5, 7. Own Legacy (6) Koshi K 54.5 and 8. Thewhisperquietly (1) S.K. Paswan 53.5.
1. NEVER GIVE IN, 2. RICARDO, 3. ART GALLERY

7 SOUTHERN EMPIRE PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. River Of Gold (3) Dhanu S 62.5, 2. Star Concept (7) P. Siddaraju 62.5, 3. Mazal Tov (1) Antony 62 , 4. Fast Response (4) Koshi K 59.5, 5. Brave Majesty (8) Sandesh 59, 6. Instructor (2) M. Naveen 57.5, 7. High Speed Dive (6) Sai Kiran 55.5 and 8. Ooh La La (5) Salman Khan 55.5.
1. MAZAL TOV, 2. INSTRUCTOR, 3. STAR CONCEPT
Day's best: **POSITANO**
Double: **SMILE OF BEAUTY – JAMARI**
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

Yukan takes the honours in Chief Justice's Cup

BENGALURU: S. Attaollahi-trained Yukan (Akshay Kumar up) won the Chief Justice's Cup, the feature event of the races held here on Thursday (Aug 8). The winner is owned by Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra, Mrs. Rina Mahindra, Mr. P. Prabhakar Reddy & Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni. Jockey Akshay Kumar won three races on the day.
THE RESULTS:
1. SKYLINE PLATE: ALICE BLUE (B.R. Kumar) 1, Double Vision (Dhanu S) 2, Estefania (Antony) 3 and Tankinika (Vivek) 4. 2, 1/2 and 5-3/4. 1m, 28.44s. ₹66 (w), 16, 13 and 12 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 52, FP: 212, Q: 90, Trinella: 662, Exacta: 1,826. Favourite: Double Vision. Owners: M/s. Rapar Galloping Stars LLP rep by Mr. Rajendran & Mr. Laksh Bhatia. Trainer: Irfan Ghatala.
2. BHISHMA PLATE: STAR COMET (Koshi K) 1, Free To Play (Darshan) 2, Peridot (B.R. Kumar) 3 and Castaneda (Antony) 4. 2-1/2, 3/4 and Snk. 1m, 29.16s. ₹150 (w), 21, 15 and 27 (p), SHP: 37, THP: 53, FP: 1,400, Q: 790, Trinella: 15,146, Exacta: 23,652. Favourite: Measure Of Time. Owner: Dr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: S. Ganapathy.
3. DHARMAPRAKASHA L.S. VENKAJI RAO MEMORIAL TROPHY: KRYSTALLOS (Akshay K) 1, Flash (Sandesh) 2, Makoto (Dhanu S) 3 and Dr Ash (Salman Khan) 4. 5-1/2, 5-1/2 and 1. 1m, 28.12s. ₹56 (w), 12, 16 and 20 (p), SHP: 49, THP: 35, FP: 438, Q: 199, Trinella: 3,610, Exacta: 62,643 (carried over). Favourite: Rodney. Owners: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram & Mukteshwar Racing LLP. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.
4. D. KUMAR SIDDANNA MEMORIAL TROPHY: MAGNUS (Neeraj) 1, Constable (G. Vivek) 2, Tiepolo (J. Chinoy) 3 and Starkova (S.J. Moulin) 4. 3/4, 7-1/4 ad 2-1/2. 2m, 07.95s. ₹26 (w), 17 and 30 (p), SHP: 43, THP: 41, FP: 278, Q: 101, Trinella: 342, Exacta: 2,446. Favourite: Tiepolo. Owners: Mr. M. Masroor Alam, Mr. Rohit Raman, Dr. Arun Raghavan & Mr. Anil Saraf. Trainer: Faraz Arshad.
5. CHIEF JUSTICE'S CUP: YUKAN (Akshay K) 1, Neziah (Sandesh) 2, Imperial Blue (Antony) 3 and Shubankar (Sai Kiran) 4. 4, 3/4 and Nose. 1m, 25.86s. ₹27 (w), 15 and 21 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 37, FP: 97, Q: 53, Trinella: 181, Exacta: 631. Favourite: Imperial Blue. Owners: Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra, Mrs. Rina Mahindra, Mr. P. Prabhakar Reddy & Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.
6. D.M. KUMARASWAMY MEMORIAL TROPHY: GOLDEN PEAKS (Akshay K) 1, Blue God (G. Vivek) 2, Armory (Angad) 3 and Roman Spirit (Koshi K) 4. Snk, 10-1/4 and Hd. 1m, 26.04s. ₹40 (w), 15, 14 and 136 (P), SHP: 29, THP: 181, FP: 119, Q: 62, Trinella: 7,661, Exacta: 30,365. Favourite: Victoria Doresaani. Owners: Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala, M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP, Mr. Girish Mehta & Mr. K. Mahaveer Chand. Trainer: Parvati Byramji.
7. GALILEE PLATE: AUGUST (Antony) 1, Mystical Air (G. Vivek) 2, Pharazon (Suraj) 3 and Regal Aristocracy (Sandesh) 4. Snk, 2 and 3-1/4. 1m, 53.42s. ₹34 (w), 12, 14 and 12 (p), SHP: 39, THP: 43, FP: 200, Q: 79, Trinella: 321, Exacta: 602. Favourite: Pharazon. Owners: M/s. Arun Alagappan Racing LLP, Mr. Haider Soomar, Mr. Chandrakanth Kankaria, Mr. Gautam Aggarwal, Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta & Mr. Rajan Aggarwal. Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.
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